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Arafat leaves Sanaa after 3-day visit

SANAA (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat left Sanaa Sunday at the end of a three-day visit for talks with North Yemeni officials on efforts to convene the Palestine National Council (PNC). The official Yemeni news agency did not give his destination. It said Mr. Arafat met North Yemeni Prime Minister Abdul Aziz Abdulhadi earlier Sunday and briefed him on recent meetings grouping various PLO factions aimed at convening the council. Mr. Arafat, who arrived here on Thursday, has been seeking Arab support for his policies ahead of the council's meeting, expected to be held in Algiers on Sept. 25. The 384-member council, a sort of parliament-in-exile, last met in February 1983.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية "الرأي"

Moscow hails ties with Iraq

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet government newspaper Izvestia said Sunday Moscow's relations with Iraq were mutually beneficial and had good prospects for further development. "Soviet-Iraqi relations, constantly developing in accordance with the national interests of the two countries, have grown into broad and mutually beneficial cooperation," Izvestia said in an article marking the 40th anniversary of relations. Referring to agreements on Soviet participation in oil, electric and other industrial development projects signed in the past two years, the Soviet daily added: "There are good prospects for joint efforts in the future as well." Relations between Moscow and Baghdad have warmed recently as a series of jarring incidents with Tehran resulted in the Soviet Union moving away from its initial neutral position on the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq.

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Regent congratulates N. Korean leader

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, sent a cable of good wishes to North Korean President Kim Il-Sung congratulating the Korean leader on his country's National Day. In his cable Prince Hassan wished the people of Korea further progress and prosperity.

Obeidat condoles Soviet premier

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat Sunday sent a cable of condolences to Soviet Prime Minister Nicolai Tikhonov on the death of Soviet Deputy Prime Minister Leonid Kostanov.

Sharaf returns from U.S.

AMMAN (J.T.) — Information Minister Laila Sharaf returned to Amman Sunday at the end of a holiday in the United States. During Mrs. Sharaf's absence Minister of Transport Taher Hikmat served as acting information minister.

Khamenei leaves Libya after talks

BEIRUT (R) — President Ali Khamenei of Iran left Libya Sunday at the close of his one-day visit, the official Libyan news agency JANA said. The agency, monitored in Beirut, said Mr. Khamenei was seen off at Sirte, 400 kilometres southeast of Tripoli, by Libyan leader Colonel Muammer Qadhafi and his deputy, Major Abdul Salam Jalloud. JANA did not give Mr. Khamenei's next destination, but the Algerian news agency APS said Saturday he was expected in Algeria Sunday on a "working and friendly visit."

See earlier story on page 2

4 stabbed to death in Indian violence

HYDERABAD, India (R) — Four people were stabbed to death and 15 injured in violence Sunday that led to the entire city of Hyderabad in South India being put under curfew, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said. Police sources told Reuters police opened fire on stone-throwing crowds during a Hindu religious procession after baton charges and tear gas failed to disperse them. PTI said a boy injured in the police firing was in critical condition.

See related story on page 3

Turkish film director dies

PARIS (R) — Yilmaz Guney, the Turkish film maker who escaped from a Turkish prison in 1981 and won the top award at the 1982 Cannes Film Festival for his film "Yol" (Road), died in a Paris hospital Sunday aged 47, his family said. Mr. Guney had been ill for about 10 years. His family did not disclose the nature of his illness. He escaped from Turkey where he was serving a long prison sentence after being convicted of murdering a public prosecutor. He was later stripped of Turkish citizenship.

Jordan denounces U.S. veto as 'total bias against Arabs'

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter with agency dispatches

AMMAN — Jordan Sunday strongly denounced the U.S. veto on a Security Council draft resolution on Israeli practices in South Lebanon saying the U.S. move "emphasises the total loss of U.S. credibility" and describing it as "further evidence of Washington's continued support of Israeli violations of international norms and laws."

Acting Information Minister Taher Hikmat, in a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said the U.S. veto "represents a practical application of the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance agreement and underlines Washington's total bias against the Arabs."

The U.S. veto, which effectively killed the Lebanese-sponsored resolution urging Israel to lift restrictions on Lebanese civilians living in the occupied south, "reflects Washington's blessing and endorsement of all Israeli practices," said Mr. Hikmat in his statement. Mr. Hikmat is Jordan's transport minister but is acting as information minister in the absence of Mrs. Laila Sharaf who is on a private visit to the United States.

Mr. Hikmat's statement followed a regular weekly cabinet session on Sunday, but it was not immediately known whether the ministers discussed the U.S. veto. The American action to quash the U.N. draft resolution, "which would have helped alleviate the suffering of innocent people under occupation," adds strength to the Jordanian stand and calls for "the participation of all world powers in efforts to end the Israeli intransigence which enjoys U.S. support," Mr. Hikmat said.

'Israeli blackmail'

The American veto also drew strong condemnation from the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). "It (the U.S. move) reveals the extent of American res-

ponse to Israeli blackmail and the... for winning Jewish votes in the forthcoming U.S. presidential election," said Khalil Al Wazir, deputy military commander of the PLO. "In spite of the fact that the Security Council was discussing humanitarian issues in accordance with the Geneva Convention, the United States chose to show its persistence in supporting Israel militarily, morally and economically," Mr. Khalil, popularly known as Abu Jihad, said.

"This veto and the U.S. attitude on other international forums clearly reflect Washington's clear bias towards the Zionists and U.S. anti-Arab and anti-Palestinian policies," Mr. Wazir told the Jordan Times.

'Huge joke'

China attacked the United States for vetoing the resolution and called U.S. Middle East policy a "huge joke." The official Communist Party newspaper, The People's Daily, said in a commentary Monday that the Washington move showed that "the United States supported Israel's invasion and expansion in Lebanon."

"The U.S. veto... once again exposes its support and patronage of Israel's invasion and expansion, and its headstrong position of hostility to the Arab people," the daily's commentary, headlines "An Inglorious Veto," said.

The paper said that according to the U.S. government's logic, it



Taher Hikmat

seemed that Lebanon's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity could be safeguarded only when Israel was allowed to continue occupying one third of its territory. "This really is a huge joke," the commentary said.

The resolution had called on Israel to lift restrictions and obstacles against Lebanese civilians travelling in the occupied south, and it was defeated by the lone U.S. veto, Britain and France, traditional U.S. allies, voted with the majority 14-1 vote.

Berri urges increased attacks

The condemnations of the U.S. action coincided with a call Sunday by the Lebanese minister for South Lebanon, Nabih Berri, for escalated attacks against the occupation forces by resistance fighters in South Lebanon.

Mr. Berri, who is also the leader of the Shiite Muslim Amal (Hope) militia, said more than 50 Lebanese youths were prepared to suicidal attacks against the Israeli occupation forces.

Mr. Berri said: "I challenge Israel to remain in South Lebanon... I have begun issuing orders to more than 50 young men like Bilal Fahs, who crashed a bomb-laden car into an Israeli tank on a sound carrier last June."

Israel, at the time, said only five of its soldiers were wounded. But local reporters and Lebanese police sources said there were deaths

among the Israeli soldiers. Fahs, who was 20, has since been eulogised as the "Bridegroom of South Lebanon" and his pictures fill the streets of Shiite Muslim-inhabited parts of Lebanon.

"We shall blow them up and blow ourselves up with them," said Mr. Berri of the Israelis who have occupied South Lebanon since the invasion of 1982. He spoke during a rally held in Beirut's southern suburbs.

The American veto has aroused bitterness in Lebanon and a revolutionary group has threatened reprisals against U.S. property.

Prime Minister Rashid Karami called the veto a shameful defence of "inhuman" and "fascist" practices.

The Lebanese press expressed anger and parliamentary deputy said "it was stupid to believe America would stand by us in an election year."

Threat against U.S.

An anonymous caller claiming to represent "Islamic Jihad" and the "Islamic Revolutionary Brigades" told two foreign news agencies here that they would strike at an American installation as a reprisal for the veto.

The anonymous caller told the news agencies: "Very soon we shall strike at one of the vital American installations in the Middle East."

In his comments to reporters on the veto, Mr. Karami said: "America's use of the veto against a humanitarian resolution and the violation of international charters and norms affects America more than Lebanon."

The radio station of ex-President Suleiman Franjeh, a Christian leader allied to Syria, said Lebanon should threaten to break off diplomatic relations with Washington.

"The least we can do... is to warn the United States, either you come to help walk him (the son of the Israeli, exert pressure on it to leave Lebanon alone and withdraw, or we will sever diplomatic and political ties with you," he said.



SEARCHING FOR REBELS: A Salvadorean army patrol cruises the Pacific Ocean waters near Punta Al Amatillo, El Salvador, searching for what the Salvadorean government describes as boats carrying arms for rebels fighting the U.S.-backed leadership in the Central American nation (AP wirephoto)

Iranian plane lands in Iraq; hijacker, family seek asylum

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — An Iran Air jet hijacked by Iranian monarchists landed in Iraq Sunday with 69 passengers and crew aboard, in the second such incident in two weeks.

The hostages and hijackers were brought to Baghdad in an Iraqi airliner after the Boeing 727, seized on a domestic flight Saturday, landed at an undisclosed Iraq airport.

The hijackers, who were met at the airport by Iraq's transport and communications minister, were an Iranian man with his wife and young son and daughter and a man who gave his name as Toufan and said he was an Iranian police lieutenant.

Toufan told a press conference arranged by Iraqi officials that the group belonged to the monarchist "Movement for the Freedom and Renaissance of Iran" led by former Prime Minister Mohammad Reza Pahlavi.

He said one passenger had been injured when he fired a shot to frighten the aircraft's captain.

The injured man was taken off during the plane's 10-hour stay in Cairo overnight, and 52 other passengers freed including a woman in her eighth month of pregnancy, he said.

Baghdad airport officials earlier said a woman had given birth to a baby aboard the Iranian plane Sunday, but the hijacker made no mention of this.

"We are for the restoration of the royal family to Iran. We are for the return of Reza, the son of the

late Shah Pahlavi," he said. The Shah was overthrown in 1979.

He called for the overthrow of the Islamic revolutionary regime in Tehran and said most Iranians opposed continuing the four-year-old Gulf war between Iran and Iraq.

He and his fellow hijackers had been granted asylum by the Baghdad government, he added.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said the hostage passengers had been taken to a Baghdad hotel and a programme of trips to holy Shiite shrines and tourist centres would be arranged for them. They would be given the option of staying in Iraq or leaving for Iran or any other country, the news agency said.

Similar trips and terms were arranged for more than 200 passengers and crew of an Iran Airbus hijacked to Iraq on Aug. 28. They were kept in Baghdad for a week before being repatriated.

Iraq, which has offered asylum to any defecting Iranians, offered asylum to the hostages of the earlier hijack, but only four took up the offer, according to International Red Cross officials here.

The Airbus was believed to be still in Iraq, and its hijackers, a young Iranian man and woman, said at a press conference that they had asked for political asylum.

The Boeing was taken over on flight between Bandar Abbas in southern Iran and Tehran. It flew first to Dubai in the United Arab

Emirates, where it was refused permission to land, and then the Bahrain where it refuelled before flying to Cairo.

Toufan said the aircraft had flown over Saudi Arabia after leaving Bahrain, and had been escorted by two Saudi fighter aircraft until it left the kingdom's air space.

It was the fourth Iranian commercial airliner hijacked in the past three months. An Iranian air force jet was also flown to Iraq late last month by two pilots who asked for political asylum.

Bakhtiar condemns hijack

In Paris meanwhile, Mr. Bakhtiar, has repeated his condemnation of air piracy. His spokesman said Sunday.

Mr. Bakhtiar, an opponent of Iran's Islamic Revolution who lives in exile in Paris, had many supporters in Iran and the hijackers could be among them, the spokesman said. But he knew no more about the incident than he had heard on the radio.

Mr. Bakhtiar's spokesman said the former prime minister blamed religious leader Ayatollah Khomeini for driving people to hijack planes in a bid to leave the country.

"He considers that the condition of life in Iran has deteriorated to the extent that people want to get out of there even at such risks to themselves and others," the spokesman said.

Assad meets leader of anti-Syrian Tripoli militia

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad Sunday reaffirmed Syrian support for peace efforts in the northern Lebanese port city of Tripoli during a meeting with the leader of Tripoli's dominant Muslim militia, the Syrian news agency SANA said.

Sheikh Saeed Shabaan, leader of the Sunni fundamentalist Islamic Unification Movement (Tawheed) militia, met Mr. Assad as part of a delegation of Tripoli

religious and municipal representatives, SANA said.

The anti-Syrian Tawheed and pro-Syrian Arab Democratic Party (ADP) militia have had a long-running feud for control of the city, where 135 people died in clashes last month.

Syrian troops were in overall control of northern Lebanon and surround Tripoli, but they have not intervened directly to stop recent clashes inside the city.

Israeli patrol comes under fire in Lebanon

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — Resistance forces opened fire with automatic weapons Sunday on an Israeli patrol near the southern Lebanese village of Numeriyeh, 15 kilometres southeast of Sidon, security sources said.

No casualties were reported in the attack, the fourth against Israeli occupation forces in the past two days, they said.

Since Friday attacks have been mounted against Israeli forces

near the southern villages of Jwaya, Ansar and Ansariyeh, the sources said.

No casualties were reported in the earlier attacks, which involved rocket-propelled grenades and automatic weapons, they added.

Meanwhile, about 1,000 Lebanese keeping fighting between rival militias south of Beirut have sought refuge in Israeli-controlled southern Lebanon, Israeli military officials in Tel Aviv said Sunday.

Pope arrives in Quebec on 12-day tour of Canada

QUEBEC CITY, Canada (R) — Pope John Paul arrived in Quebec City Sunday at the start of a 12-day tour of Canada.

As churchbells pealed across the old walled city, the Polish-born pontiff, the first Pope to visit Canada, kissed the ground at Quebec airport to begin his 23rd foreign trip.

Security was tight with 5,000 officers policing Canada's oldest

city. Manhole covers were sealed along the route being taken by the pontiff's motorcade and mail boxes were removed as possible bomb targets.

The organisers, mindful of an assassination attempt against the Pope in Rome three years ago, have laid on a specially equipped ambulance to follow him in every motorcade.

Security fears were heightened after a bomb blast killed three Parisian tourists last Monday at Montreal railway station and officials received letters threatening the Pope.

Chief Superintendent Jean Poirier, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police officer in charge of security, said the bomb "sure serves our members with a warning... that can happen, so be very, very vigilant."

"I greet you, Quebec, first church in North America, first witness to the faith," the pontiff said in an airport statement after arriving here at 11:23 a.m. (1523 GMT) aboard his green-and-white Alitalia DC-10 jetliner.

Here in French-speaking and largely Catholic Quebec Province, fewer than one-third of church members practice their religion.

Soviets say Reagan trying to delude world public

LONDON (AP) — Relations between the United States and the Soviet Union have dropped "to the lowest point in their history" and U.S. President Ronald Reagan is trying to delude the world by saying he wants dialogue and nuclear disarmament, the official Soviet news agency TASS reported Sunday.

"The words of the White House chief are believed by his practical deeds," TASS political news analyst Anatoly Krasikov said in a commentary on Mr. Reagan's interview with London's Sunday Times newspaper.

In the interview, Mr. Reagan said his top foreign policy priority in a second administration will be nuclear arms reduction aimed at

eliminating all weapons of mass destruction.

"We must and will engage the Soviet Union in dialogue as serious and constructive as the Soviet leaders permit," the newspaper quoted the president as saying.

TASS accused the Reagan administration of doing "a good deal to disorganise and even destroy what was achieved by its predecessors" on U.S.-Soviet relations.

It said Mr. Reagan's insistence that the United States talk to the Soviet Union from a position of strength will never lead to dialogue. The United States and the Soviet Union can only talk as equals, TASS said.

"Mr. Reagan has convinced

himself, and many Americans as well, that the U.S. can and must talk with the Soviet Union only from positions of strength. And now he is surprised that there has been no talk with the Soviet Union," Mr. Krasikov said.

"Indeed, relations between the world's two major powers have dropped to the lowest point in their history. It is for the first time during the past few decades that talks are not conducted on the worst problem of our time — the limitation and reduction of nuclear armaments," he said.

"The Soviet Union will never allow anyone to talk to it in the language of dictat. It will never permit U.S. military superiority, will not permit any violation of the

principle of equality and equal security, once recognised by Washington but today rejected by it," Mr. Krasikov said.

In the Sunday Times interview, Mr. Reagan was asked what his top foreign policy priority would be if he is re-elected in November.

"Well, it has to be peace and it has to be reduced arms, particularly in the strategic field. I have to believe that if we can persuade the Soviet Union to join in reducing those weapons, perhaps we can all see the wisdom of not only reducing but eliminating. I don't think the world should have to live with this great threat hanging over it," the president was quoted as saying.

Perez de Cuellar urges multilateral approach towards world problems

UNITED NATIONS (R) — United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar called Sunday for a return to international cooperation in tackling world problems and urged improvements in the way the U.N. functions.

In his annual report to the General Assembly, Mr. Perez de Cuellar said a number of factors accounted for the "retreat from internationalism and multilateralism."

These included overconfidence in international institutions after World War II, high-power differences, the doctrine of nuclear deterrence, and heightened nationalism and tears for national security.

He said the past year had seen great-power tension, lack of progress in disarmament, violence in several parts of the world, continued economic difficulties despite a recovery in some countries, and drought and famine in several regions.

"Virtually nothing that has happened has shown that these problems can be solved effectively by purely bilateral or unilateral efforts," he said.

Despite what he said were the accomplishments of the U.N. in bettering human conditions, the three main elements of a stable order had yet to take hold. These were an accepted system of maintaining international peace



Javier Perez de Cuellar

and security, disarmament and arms limitation and the progressive development of a just and effective system of international economic relations.

"What needs to be studied in the light of experience is whether present practices in the United Nations are in all instances best suited to promote concrete and just solutions and strengthen confidence in an organisation the essence of which is its universality," he said.

Referring to the way extraneous issues are often injected into U.N. debates, he said: "We should beware of blurring the separate and specific functions of the main organs and specialised agencies by treating them as interchangeable platforms for pursuing the same political aims."

The secretary-general said issues should be dealt with primarily on their own merit and in their own context "otherwise the lever of one or two issues can pervade the entire body politic of the United Nations."

Urging U.N. members to "experiment with new approaches," he said: "Most of all we need to reaffirm the charter concept that threats to international peace and security, from whatever source or in whatever region of the world, override ideological or other differences between states and entail an obligation on all states to agree and cooperate."

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Planned cabinet role for Sharon figures high in Labour rebellion

Peres battles party dissent

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel's Labour Party leader and Premier-designate Shimon Peres battled Sunday to stem growing dissent within his party to joining outgoing Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud bloc in a coalition government which would include hawkish former Defence Minister Ariel Sharon.

Mr. Peres has conducted hundreds of meetings in his efforts to break the political deadlock created by July's inconclusive general election. He now seems close to becoming Israel's eighth prime minister.

Labour Party officials said Mr. Peres was almost certain to win a majority for his coalition pact with Likud from the 800-strong Labour central committee on Monday.

But with more and more Labour members expressing opposition to the agreement, there were growing signs that his margin of success could be embarrassingly meagre.

Members were particularly unhappy that Labour would not hold a major economic portfolio, leaving Likud to tackle what is seen as the government's major task — dealing with the worsening economic crisis.

There was also strong opposition to granting the Industry and Trade Ministry to Mr. Sharon,

long regarded by Labour supporters as their arch-enemy.

Critics said Sunday Mr. Peres was committing "political suicide" by giving in to Likud's demand that Mr. Sharon be appointed commerce and industry minister.

"Labour is spitting in the face of people who gave it their votes because they wanted to keep Sharon out of the government," said Ron Cohen, a parliament member from the left-leaning Citizens' Rights Movement.

"I will make every effort to organise a movement to fight against the government which puts Ariel Sharon in such a central position," Mr. Cohen told the Associated Press.

The "Peace Now Movement", an unaffiliated movement which gains some of its supporters from Labour Saturday called on Mr. Peres to give an assurance that Mr. Sharon, who masterminded the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon, would not get the post.

Mideast countries unable to develop before 2,000, nuclear arms study says

WASHINGTON (R) — Most Islamic countries in the Middle East would find it impossible to develop nuclear weapons independently before the end of the century, congressional analysts said Sunday.

In a study on the transfer of technology to six states — Algeria, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia — the analysts said most Middle East nations had not committed themselves to nuclear programmes.

But they found it increasingly likely that nations like India, Argentina and Brazil, which have not endorsed international nuclear non-proliferation rules, would supply Middle East nations with nuclear weapons components within the next 10 years.

The study, which was performed by the U.S. Congress' Office of Technology Assessment, forecast that "no Islamic Middle Eastern country will be capable of

acquiring a nuclear device on a wholly indigenous basis within this decade and most would find it impossible to do so before the turn of the century."

The analysts also concluded the Middle East will remain an important market for technology trade "but the explosive growth of years past will probably not be repeated."

Industrialised countries have vastly expanded their technology exports to the Middle East, raising the total sold from \$5.5 billion in 1970 to about \$100 billion in 1982, the report said.

These exports include petrochemicals, telecommunications systems, commercial aircraft and support services, medical services and nuclear power.

The United States has controlled about 20 per cent of the market over the past decade but could well see that share shrink, the analysts predicted.

Meanwhile, Western European and Japanese firms have been strong competitors with Japan increasing its portion of the Middle East market from nine per cent in 1970 to 23 per cent in 1980 and West Germany holding at 20 per cent, they said.

The analysts said a major problem in exporting advanced technology to the Middle East is the shortage of technical and managerial personnel to operate and service sophisticated facilities and equipment.

Middle Eastern workers are successfully operating commercial aircraft so that the statistics of their airlines "are on a par with major international airlines," the report said.

But, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia have to import foreign workers to staff their medical facilities and must continue to do so well into the 21st century, it added.

Eichmann's trial diary under study

TEL AVIV (R) — Excerpts from an unpublished journal kept by Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann during his 1961 trial in Israel suggest he took a cynical view of anti-Semitism as a ploy to win mass support for the Nazis.

The journal, purchased in 1979 by the West German state archive from Eichmann's lawyer, has been made available to Israeli researchers. Wim Van Leer for a study of the SS, the elite corps of the Nazi Party.

Eichmann masterminded the deportation to death camps of millions of Jews.

"During the fight for power within the (German) Reich, the fight against the Jews played a secondary role... it was the salt in the soup."

"What a marvellous word the very word Jew... a catalyst for so many things understandable to even the most stupid... that the Jew was no more and no less responsible for things as they were (in Germany) and carried the same guilt as everyone else was better not mentioned," he wrote.

Mr. Van Leer told Reuters the material showed "Eichmann spent the nights of the trial, when he couldn't sleep, scribbling about anything, his views, his philosophy

... he was trying to understand what had happened to humanity and civilisation."

"You didn't have to go far afield into history, which to the masses was anyway a dreary business. Didn't everyone at that time (1930s) still have anti-Semitism ringing in their ears," Eichmann wrote, pointing to anti-Semitic German theorists.

The journal is among the papers of Eichmann's lawyer, Robert Servatius, whose family sold them to the Bundesarchiv in Koblenz after the lawyer's death. The archive has not finished cataloguing the papers.

Arab-Israeli peace party ignores political horse-traders

By Ian Black

TEL AVIV — Unlike most Israeli politicians, Matti Peled and Mohammed Miarri want to part in their Israel's next government.

While other newly-elected MPs are being wooed by Labour and Likud as the two big blocks try with increasing desperation to form a new administration, Professor Peled, Mr. Miarri and their colleagues in the Progressive List for Peace are happy to stay on the sidelines.

The PLP, the new party whose success in July's Knesset elections was one of few surprises in a dull and lack-lustre campaign, will spend the lifetime of the new parliament in opposition — whatever the result of the political horse-trading between the two big blocks and other smaller Knesset factions.

Non-participation in government has been forced upon the PLP by its own view that opposition is the right place for it. And however hard the Labour and Likud politicians try to break the electoral deadlock, they cannot bring themselves to take the new and unsettling PLP phenomenon into account when doing their coalition arithmetic.

The PLP is a new and cha-

llenging development in Israeli politics: A joint Arab-Jewish party campaigning for Peace initiatives that will solve the Palestinian problem by dialogue between the PLO and Israel, and the occupation of the territories conquered in 1967, and halt the discriminatory treatment of Arabs in the Jewish state.

Two seats in the 120-member Knesset hardly makes the party a major force, but its emergence represents important trends, these include new levels of political participation in the Arab sector, which no one can afford to ignore.

"Our task this time is to be in open and unequivocal opposition," says Professor Peled.

For a brief moment several weeks ago, it seemed that Labour might break the taboo and seek the passive support of the PLP and its bitter rival, the Communist Democratic Front, to form a narrow government without the Likud.

While the "more respectable" smaller parties were being hotly and openly pursued as coalition partners, the PLP was treated, as Mr. Uri Avneri, one of its leaders, put it, "like a mistress" no one should know too much about the illicit relationship.

Last week, Labour officials were

seeking PLP support for their party's candidate for the Speakership of the Knesset, Mr. Shlomo Hillel. Prof. Peled and Mr. Miarri have made clear their unpopularity with the choice because Mr. Hillel was minister of police in the Labour government that violently suppressed the Land Day demonstrations of 1976 — one of the turning points in the radicalisation of Israel's Arab minority.

Party is the result of a meeting of minds between the remnants of a dovish leftwing Jewish Party, Shelli, and a group of progressive Arab intellectuals who wanted to break away from the traditional and stifling domination of the Arab vote by the pro-Moscow Rakal Communist Party.

Professor Peled, who teaches Arab literature, came to his radical politics after serving as the army's quartermaster-general during the 1967 war. He was a pioneer of contacts between the Israeli peace camp and Palestinian moderates like the late Issam Sartawi, murdered by the dissident Abu Nidal group last year.

The 1982 invasion of Lebanon served as a catalyst for him and other Shelli members when they found that cooperation with a col-

league who spent the war bombarding Palestinian refugee camps near Beirut was no longer possible.

Their partnership with a group of Arabs from Nazareth and Haifa is not an equal one. Of the 38,000 votes that got Prof. Peled and Mr. Miarri into Parliament, only 5,000 came from Jews.

Prof. Peled makes no apology for this, and his explanation is brutally simple: "The will for peace is simply stronger among Arabs than among Jews," he says. "We will use the Arab vote to work more successfully among Jews."

Mr. Miarri, the party's other MP, is more conventional. A lawyer by training, and an expert on land rights, he was nine years old when his family was driven from their native village in Acre by the advancing Israelis in the 1948 war. Many of his relatives are refugees to this day.

Ironically, the new party owes something of its success to a ham-fisted attempt to have it outlawed just before the election campaign began in May. The Likud defence minister, on the advice of the Shin Bet internal security service, claimed that the PLP's open support for the PLO made it a sub-

versive organisation.

The high court, however, overruled the proposed ban by the Central Elections Committee. The row meant large-scale free publicity for the PLP — The Guardian.

Jordan to attend talks on water situation in Arab World

AMMAN (Petra) — The Natural Resources Authority NRA announced that it will attend a meeting of the special group entrusted with making assessment of the water situation in the Arab World.

The four-day meeting organised by the UNESCO (United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation) will open in Paris on Monday.

The NRA also said that it will take part in a meeting on administrative development which will be held in Tangiers, Morocco between Sept 9 and 21.

Delegates from various Arab states will take part in the meeting.

Khamenei in Libya after visit to Syria

LONDON (R) — President Ali Khamenei of Iran arrived in Libya Saturday after a three-day visit to Syria and was greeted by Libyan leader Col. Muammar Qadhafi, the Iranian News Agency IRNA reported.

The agency, monitored in London, said the visits to Libya and Syria, Iran's main Arab allies, were aimed at "strengthening mutual ties and adopting a joint strategy in the fight against the Zionist regime."

An Iranian plan to have Israel expelled from the United Nations

would be a major topic of discussion between Iranian and Libyan officials, the agency said.

It said Mr. Khamenei had a short meeting with Col. Qadhafi on his arrival at an airbase in Sirte and quoted the Libyan leader as telling him: "We are alongside you and you are in our hearts."

Mr. Khamenei replied: "I have a similar feeling... You have been alongside us from the very beginning of the revolution's victory."

In Damascus, Mr. Khamenei earlier wound up his visit there with an attack on United States

policies in the Middle East and what he termed unjust use of the veto in the U.N. Security Council.

Commenting on Washington's veto two days ago of a Lebanese resolution in the Security Council against Israel's occupation of Southern Lebanon, Mr. Khamenei said: "The big powers usually use this right when their interests are in danger."

He said he and President Hafez Al Assad agreed to strengthen bilateral ties and had discussed "military questions of interest to our two countries."

Iranians mark anniversary of Tehran massacre that changed Iran's destiny

TEHRAN (R) — At 8 a.m. six years ago Saturday, Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi was supreme ruler of his country but the next 30 minutes were to change his life and the destiny of Iran.

At that hour on Sept. 8, 1978, thousands of people, many of them terrified because opposition to the monarch was unheard of, gathered at Jaleh Square, a traffic roundabout in central Tehran.

It was the first big public demonstration against the Shah's long rule, in defiance of the monarch's hated secret police, Savak, whose job was to make opponents of the monarch suffer intolerably or else disappear.

By 8.30 that morning, at least 100 people lay dead around the square, probably closer to 400, and possibly even hundreds more if accounts of the present leadership are accurate.

It became known as the Jaleh Square Massacre. Local media, tightly controlled by the monarch, barely mentioned it and it caused hardly a ripple in the international press.

In many of the world's best-

known papers, it was not mentioned at all.

But it was the turning point in the movement against the Shah. Photographs of the massacre, which began circulating clandestinely, turned many people against the monarch who had previously remained silent.

Shortly after 8 a.m., as the demonstrators chanted "death to the Shah, death to the Pahlavi Family", units of the monarch's Imperial Army appeared on the scene in full combat gear, steel helmets and with G-3 automatic rifles.

For a few seconds, they fired into the air. When the crowd persisted, the soldiers' commander ordered them to lower their sights and shoot into the demonstrators. Photographs show hundreds of bodies around the roundabout, with steel-helmeted soldiers crouched against walls or alongside the "jool" (ditch) which lines many Tehran streets.

Surviving eyewitnesses are few. Any of those who did survive fled the country, others have since been executed for later opposing

the clergy-dominated government and some have died on the battlefield in the four-year-old war with Iraq.

It was the first time the Shah's army had opened fire indiscriminately on demonstrators. But it was not the last.

The army's action became the norm as the momentum of the revolution grew and by the time the Shah left Iran in January, 1979, such shooting incidents were a daily occurrence.

Iran's present rulers like to make a point of how those shootings by the Shah's army received little or no coverage in the Shah-controlled press.

Jaleh Square and similar incidents were, indeed, buried in the local press in much the same way as opposition to the present leadership is buried or ignored by the leadership-controlled media of today.

Thousands of Iranians marked the Jaleh Square Massacre anniversary Saturday at a rally in the square, now renamed "Square of the Martyrs."

Lebanese commandos obtain weapons from Israelis in return for hashish

BEIRUT (AP) — A Lebanese commando who claims to belong to the "National Resistance Front" said in an interview published Saturday that most weapons in his movement were obtained from the Israelis themselves in return for hashish.

The weekly Lebanese magazine "An Nahar Arab and International" carried interviews with three men it said were leaders in the so-called resistance front, which has claimed responsibility for many of the guerrilla attacks against the Israeli troops occupying the South since the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

The magazine identified the men only by the code names "Abu Tarek," "Hazen" and "Raad."

"Most of the time we obtain weapons from the Israeli army itself in return for hashish. A large portion of the weapons that the Israeli soldiers see find their way back into the hands of the national fighters," Hazen told the magazine.

He and the other alleged com-

mandos said the front was made up of leftist groups and formed after the evacuation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) from Beirut in 1982.

Hazen said the front received its training in the Western Sahara and watched how members of the Polisario Front fought the Moroccan army.

Hazen said the front also cooperates with members of the Shiite Muslim "Amal" militia and the Shiite extremist group "Hezbollah," or Party of God, he said.

According to official Israeli counts, about 600 Israeli soldiers have been killed in Lebanon in commando attacks since the invasion. An average of two attacks a day have been reported against the Israelis, and some other attacks are believed to go unreported.

The magazine did not say where it interviewed the commandos nor did it provide any background information about them. It printed seven separate photographs of four fighters with Arab kufiyeh head dresses wrapped around

their faces with only their eyes showing, the pictures showed the commandos carrying machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades in a forest. One picture showed a commando posing with a SAM-7 anti-aircraft missile on his shoulder.

"Israel cannot destroy the movement because it has a regular army that is vulnerable and open to guerrilla warfare from a secret underground organisation," Hazen said.

"The method is devoted purely to military strikes to wear down the Israeli army to the level where it will be forced to flee Lebanese territory," he said.

Commenting on the "South Lebanon Army" militia which Israel has established to replace its own army when it pulls out of the South, Hazen said: "In the end they will not be luckier than the Zionist army. The Israeli army has often been described as invincible. Why is it fleeing now?"

The commandos said the ultimate aim of the front is to turn itself into a people's army.

TV & RADIO		WHAT'S GOING ON		FOR THE TRAVELLER		USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.					
JORDAN TELEVISION MAIN CHANNEL 17:30 Koran 17:40 Cartoons 18:00 Children Programme 18:30 Documentary 19:20 Programme Review 19:30 Armed Forces Programme 20:00 News in Arabic 20:35 Arabic Series 22:00 Local Comedy 22:30 Arabic Series 23:00 News in Arabic 23:10 Series Cont.		BBC WORLD SERVICE 639, 720, 1413 KHz 06:00 Newsweek 06:30 1 Like it Here 06:45 Letter from London 06:55 Ref.lections 07:00 World News 07:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 07:30 Letterbox 07:45 Screen Favourites 08:00 Newsweek 08:30 Baker's Half Dozen 08:40 World News 09:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 09:30 Sarah and Company 10:00 World News 10:09 Ref.lections 10:45 New 12:15 Science Through the Look- ing Glass 12:30 Counterpoint 12:00 World News 12:09 News About Britain 12:15 1 Like it Here 12:30 Omnibus 12:40 Radio Newsworld 14:15 Brain of Britain 1984 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 15:30 The Boun- ding Checks 15:45 The Plant Hunters 16:30 Modern Masterpieces 17:00 World News 17:09 Outlook 18:00 World News 18:09 Commentary 18:15 Hot Air 18:30 Science Through the Looking Glass 18:45 The World Today 19:00 World News 19:09 Book Choice 19:15 My Music 19:45 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsweek 20:30 Priestley at 90 21:00 Outlook 21:30 Stock Market Report 21:45 Look Ahead 22:45 Pea- bles Check 23:00 World News 23:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 23:30 Sports International 23:00 Net- work UK 23:15 1 Like it Here 23:30 Counterpoint 23:00 World News 06:09 The World Today		TODAY'S EVENTS VIDEO-DOCUMENTARY "L'Opera savage: Hier et demain la Grèce" at 16:30 at the French Cultural Centre. CULTURAL CENTRES Royal Cultural Centre .. tel. 6610267 American Centre .. 44371 American Cultural Library .. 41520 British Council .. 361478 French Cultural Centre .. 37009 Goethe Institute .. 41993 Soviet Cultural Centre .. 44203 Spanish Cultural Centre .. 34049 Turkish Cultural Centre .. 39777 Haya Arts Centre .. 665195 Hussein Youth City .. 667181 Y.W.C.A. .. 664251 A.W.M. Municipal Library .. 36111 University of Jordan Library .. 843555 SERVICES CLUBS Lions Amman Club: Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Hol- iday Inn, 1.30 p.m. Lions Philadelphia Club: Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7.30 p.m. Philadelphia Rotary Club: Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m. Rotary Club: Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2.00 p.m. Royal Automobile Club, Jabel Amman, Elghin Circle, Tel. 815261. CHURCHES St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman, tel. 24590. Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Leveleh, 37410. De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Leveleh, 661775. Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 23541. Anglican Church (Church of the Red- eemer) Jabel Amman, 41559. Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafiah, 771331. Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 775261. St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Or- thodox) Ashrafieh, 771751. Armenian International Church (Inter- denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, 815534. MUSEUMS Folklore Museum: Jewellery and co- smees over 100 years old. Also models from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre. Armenian: Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 7160. Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qaf'a (Citadel) Hill. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Jordan National Gallery: Contains a col- lection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Museum, Jabel Leveleh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30123. Marjory's Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dat- ing from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240. PRAYER TIMES 03:51 Fajr 05:17 (Sunrise) Shurub 11:34 Dhuhur 12:07 'Asr 17:48 Maghreb 19:14 'Isha		AMMAN AIRPORT This information is supplied by Air In- formation Department at the Queen Alia International Airport, tel. (08) 33250, where it should always be verified. ARRIVALS 06:50 Cairo (MS) 09:15 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ) 09:30 Agaba (RJ) 09:45 Agaba (RJ) 09:45 Muscat, Bahrain (RJ) 09:50 Kuwait (RJ) 10:00 Dhahran (RJ) 10:10 Larissa, Damascus (RJ) 11:30 Beirut (RJ) 12:30 Istanbul, Ankara (RJ) 12:30 Muscat, Bahrain (RJ) 14:40 Kuwait (RJ) 15:10 Jeddah, Medina (RJ) 15:10 Baghdad, Athens (RJ) 17:30 New York, Vienna (RJ) 18:30 Cairo (RJ) 18:30 Bangkok (RJ) 18:40 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ) 20:50 Cairo (MS) 20:50 Cairo (RJ) 06:45 Baghdad (RJ) 01:00 London, Baghdad (RJ) 01:10 Baghdad (RJ) DEPARTURES 06:45 Cairo (RJ) 06:50 Beirut (RJ) 06:50 Cairo (MS) 07:15 Agaba (RJ) 08:15 Beirut (MEA) 08:30 Athens (OIA) 11:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ) 11:30 Kuwait (RJ) 11:30 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ) 12:00 London (RJ) 12:15 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ) 12:30 Istanbul, Bucharest (RJ) 12:30 Ankara, Istanbul (TK) 13:00 Kuwait (RJ) 13:30 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (RJ) 14:30 Cairo (RJ) 15:40 Kuwait (RJ) 16:25 Istanbul, Edirne (RJ) 16:40 Medina, Jeddah (SV) 19:30 Kuwait, Dubai (RJ) 19:45 Bahrain, Dhahran (RJ) 19:45 Dhahran (RJ) 20:15 Jeddah (RJ) 20:15 Abu Dhabi (RJ) 20:45 Cairo (RJ) 21:15 Baghdad (RJ) 21:50 Cairo (MS) 23:30 Lisbon, Rio de Janeiro (RJ)		MARITIME TRAFFIC Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port: — Golden Agaba — Abu Salim — Al Wasiti — Baid — Krid Land — Youn — Virgin — Reu — Al Taba — El Arish — Shadib Amin Kassar and Sons Company, Tel: 22324 (six lines) at your service. MONEY EXCHANGE Local selling rates in Jls Belgian franc 65/ 65.4 Dutch guilder 116/ 116.8 Austrian schilling 108/ 107.3 Egyptian pound 318/ 324.6 French franc 42/ 71 43 Iraqi dinar 375/ 380.8 Italian lire (for 100) 21/ 21.5 Japanese yen (for 100) 150/ 150.5 Kuwaiti dinar 1310/ 1316.6 Lebanese lira 57/ 59.4 Omani rial 110/ 111.1 Qatari riyal 106/ 5/ 107.3 Saudi riyal 110/ 31 112.6 Swedish crown 46/ 46.7 Swiss franc 157/ 158 Syrian lira 466/ 47.7 UAE dirham 108/ 106.6 U.K. sterling pound 498/ 501.5 U.S. dollar 392/ 394.5 W. German mark 131 131.8 WEATHER Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology. It will be normal, with northwesterly moderate winds. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm. Low/high temperature in deg.C Amman 14/30 Aqaba 22/37 Deserts 17/33 Jordan Valley 23/35 Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 30, Aqaba 37. Humidity read- ings: Amman 32 per cent, Aqaba 19 per cent.		EMERGENCIES Ambulance 193, 775111 Fire 199 Fire, fire, police 199 Blood bank 77521 Civil Defence rescue 661111 Fire headquarters 22090-3 Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777 Police headquarters 59141 Traffic police 66390-1 Electric Power Co. 36381-2 Municipal water service 77125-8 Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 33333 TAXIS: Taxi taxi 44560 Jerusalem taxi 39655 Tunex taxi 666417 Khalid taxi 23515 Kurdi taxi 841309 Waddah taxi 812454 HOSPITALS Hussein Medical Centre 813813-32 Khalid Maternity, J. Amn 44281-4 Akheh Maternity, J. Amman 42441 Jabal Amman Maternity 42362 Maltes, J. Amman 36140 Palestine, Shmeisani 66471-4 Shmeisani Hospital 669131 University Hospital 845845 Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein 667158 Al-Musharraf Hospital 66727-9 The Islamic, Abdali 663292 Al-Ahli, Abdali 666164 Italian, Al-Muhajreen 77701-3 Al-Badr, J. Ashrafieh 775111 Army, Marka 91611 GENERAL Jordan Television 773111 Radio Jordan 774111 Ministry of Tourism 42311 Hotel complaints 666412 Price complaints 661176 Telephone: Information 12 Jordan and Middle East calls 10 Overseas calls 16 Cable or telegram 17 Repair service 11 MARKET PRICES Upper/lower price in Jls per kg. Apple (golden) 250/ 220 Apple (local) 250/ 200 Apple (starline) 250/ 220 Banana 280/ 240 Banana (Mukammal) 240/ 210 Beans 320/ 280 Cabbage 140/ 100 Carrot 130/ 100 Cauliflower (white) 160/ 130 Cherries (all kinds) 400/ 350 Cucumber (large) 140/ 110 Cucumber (small) 280/ 240 Dates 250/ 2 Eggplant (large) 130/ 100 Eggplant (small) 140/ 110 Figs 250/ 200 Gistle (without leaves) 180/ 150 Grapes 200/ 160 Walnuts 250/ 200 Lemon 160/ 120 Melon 60/ 40 Mintow (large) 130/ 100 Mintow (small) 220/ 180 Peanut 160/ 130 Onion (dry) 520/ 450 Olives 250/ 200 Parsley 100/ 100 Peaches 560/ 580 Pears 560/ 580 Pipp (sweet) 170/ 140 Pipp (bitter) 170/ 140 Plums 480/ 400 Pomegranates (sweet) 180/ 150 Potatoes 100/ 80 Radishes 100/ 80 Sweet Melon 100/ 70 Tomatoes 90/ 60	

Cabinet forms committee to study Egyptian trade

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet Sunday decided to form a committee of several ministries' under secretaries to conduct a study on ways to develop economic and trade relations with Egypt.

The committee will also prepare the ground for next month's meeting of the joint Jordanian-Egyptian economic committee. The cabinet also reviewed other topics on the agenda and took appropriate decisions concerning these issues.

Jordanians leave for British political party conferences

AMMAN (J.T.) — A group of Jordanian personalities will leave for Britain Monday to attend the annual conferences of Britain's political parties. They will attend the Social Democratic Party meeting scheduled for Sept. 17, the Labour Party Congress due to be held in early October and the Conservative Party convention which ends on Sept. 12.

The group, which includes Jaafar Toukan, Walid Al Shaer and Dr. Ghazi Al Qasem will be attending the meetings upon invitation of the British parties. Dr. Jamal Al Shaer, former member of the National Consultative Council, attended Labour and Conservative party congresses last year.

Information Ministry cautions against publishing draft laws

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Information has cautioned the local press against publishing draft laws which have yet to be approved by the cabinet. A statement distributed by the Publication and Press Department Sunday said that the publishing of draft laws which later undergo amendment, changes and probable cancellation, tends to confuse the public.

Some papers publish the draft laws as they come from different sources and government departments before they are referred to the cabinet, which normally enlists legal consultation and advice before amending parts of the proposed law or cancelling it completely, the statement said.

It so happens that sometimes the newspapers erroneously report that the draft law had been endorsed as was in the case of the "lawyers law" recently, the statement added. The ministry asked that newspapers wishing to publish draft laws should first acquire prior approval from the Ministry of Justice. The newspapers should also make sure that the draft law is the same one that would be referred to the cabinet for approval or to publish the draft drawing public attention to the fact that it has not been endorsed or that it is not final, the statement added.

Of course the draft law which acquires cabinet approval is normally referred to the Lower House of Parliament for debate before it is approved in its final form, the statement said.

Tomatoes processed in Marka following factory breakdowns

AMMAN (J.T.) — One hundred and seventy truck-loads of tomatoes produced in the Jordan Valley reached the tomato paste factory in Marka last week upon instructions from the Minister of Agriculture Mohammad Bashir. The instructions were issued for fear that the crop would go bad as

it had not been sent for processing to the tomato factory in the northern Jordan Valley region because of a breakdown in the machines.

According to Ministry of Agriculture, the factory in the Jordan Valley is operational again but with half capacity.

Housing Corporation continues plan to provide rural low-cost homes

By Awni Badr
Petra

AMMAN — The Housing Corporation has laid down plans for building housing estates in rural areas of Jordan in a bid to stop the movement of people to Amman and other cities and to improve the economic and social standards of people in rural regions, according to the corporation's director general, Mr. Shafiq Zawaideh.

He said in an interview with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that the government has a policy of providing homes for all people especially families with limited or low income and therefore it has instructed the Housing Corporation to help build homes for these people as near as possible to the places where they work.

The corporation has been building housing units for people working in major economic ventures such as the South Cement Factory in Tafleeh, the glass factory in Ma'an, and the white cement factory near Mafrag. However, more units are still needed around Amman which contains most of the factories and the greatest number of workers, Mr. Zawaideh said.

He said that units are being built in areas east of Amman where the government owns land which is not cultivable, and can be used only for building factories. So far

the corporation has carried out six housing projects in these areas. In cooperation with the Social Security Corporation (SSC), the corporation will next year implement two housing projects around Amman containing a total of 1,000 units for workers, Mr. Zawaideh said.

Another major area where the Housing Corporation is involved is in the Jordan Valley region where workers are employed mostly on cultivating crops, Mr. Zawaideh said. But, he added, the corporation also encourages individuals to set up their own homes in rural regions and helps them to get loans from the Housing Bank with a 5.5 per cent annual interest.

UNICEF conference opens today

By Olga Mikhael
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A five-day regional conference for United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) staff in the Middle East and north Africa opens today at the Amra Hotel.

Seventy representatives and staff members are participating in the conference during which they will discuss the situation of children in the Middle East and north Africa, and means of improving the conditions of mother and children in the region.

His Royal Highness Prince Talal Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud of Saudi Arabia, a special envoy for UNICEF, is scheduled to arrive and join the meeting on the Sept. 12. Prince Talal, the Middle East and north Africa representatives and senior officials from the organization's headquarters in New York will discuss means of raising the level of services for children in the region and how to increase resources for such services.

"In this meeting, a gathering of our representatives from north Africa and the Middle East, representing different Arab countries, will discuss more effective means of supporting the children in this part of the world," Mr. James Grant, UNICEF executive director, said in an interview with the Jordan Times. "This meeting is taking place at a time when a combination of new technological breakthroughs for dealing with

child problems are being developed," said Mr. Grant. "There is a new potential for dramatically improving the situation of children in the Arab World through a strategy based on a child survival and effective development," he added.

Mr. Grant went on to say that this strategy is based on low-cost techniques such as getting mothers to monitor growth, a move back to breast feeding, improved diarrhoeal treatment and massive immunisation. "More than 1,000 Arab children die every day from dehydration and another 1,000 die from lack of immunisation," Mr. Grant said. "Dehydration due to diarrhoea can be cured through a simple oral rehydration salt, which is easily dissolved in water. Vaccination could be more widely applied if countries use all their communication channels, such as radio and television to convey the available advice to the mothers at home," he said.

Awareness

UNICEF focuses not only on children but is concerned with the family and the community. It tries to increase public awareness through its contacts and coordination with the governments. "I have met with the leaders of the Arab League and Arab governmental officials to discuss possibilities of promoting these programmes in the region," said Mr. Grant. "The Arab League is increasingly active

on behalf of children in the Arab World and during our talks we discussed possibilities of increasing radio programmes about dehydration therapy and merits of immunisation," he added.

"Although the death rate among children in Jordan is not as high as in other Arab countries, there are around 12,000 to 13,000 children that die every year in Jordan due to dehydration, lack of immunisation and other unnecessary causes. We can do something about it through our programmes and our cooperation with the Jordanian government and private sector," he said.

UNICEF is entirely dependent upon voluntary contributions and 75 per cent of its income comes from government contributions and 25 per cent from organisations and individuals through fund raising efforts. "Through the continuous support of different Arab and other member countries we could rescue UNICEF from the global recession problems that we are facing," Mr. Grant said. "Many governments tried to cut down their contribution but fortunately these attempts were stopped by the parliament or the congress of these countries and instead we got an increase," he added.

"The fact that 3,300 children die every day in the Arab World represents a great tragedy for the family and the nation, as they are the most precious resource for both," he concluded.

Jordan's currency stable, Nabulsi states

Officials deny dinar devaluation rumours

AMMAN (J.T.) — Two senior Jordanian officials Sunday denied rumours that Jordan intends to devalue the dinar in a bid to encourage national exports.

Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism Jawad Al Anani was quoted by the Arabic daily Sawt Al Shaab as saying that the idea of devaluation is not even thought of, and is totally rejected. Jordan's dinar is supported by a basket of international currencies and could fluctuate within certain limits now and then depending on the strength of the currencies in that basket, Dr. Anani said.

Asked to comment on the rumours, Central Bank Governor Mohammad Sa'id Al Nabulsi said that one of the basic elements of Jordan's monetary policy is the stability of its currency. At present there does not exist an economic situation which warrants even the

thought of devaluing the Jordanian dinar, despite increasing rumours about devaluation here and abroad, Dr. Nabulsi said.

He would not go into details about the advantages or disadvantages of devaluation which he said happens in countries suffering from deficits in the balance of payments. The Jordanian balance of payments has been sound over the past eight years and has not shown any deficit except in 1982, when it was JD 50 million, and which has since disappeared, Dr. Nabulsi pointed out.

He said that this does not mean that devaluation should not be discussed, particularly by the developing countries, whenever the



Mohammad Sa'id Nabulsi need arises. But, he said, the economic situation in Jordan is quite sound and does not warrant such a measure at all.

Both officials were commenting on current rumours about an impending devaluation and in reply to a question put to them at a recent seminar by former cabinet minister Dr. Yusuf Thihni.

Zarqa Municipality submits general, water budgets for ministry approval

ZARQA (Petra) — Zarqa Municipality has submitted its general draft budget and another budget for water projects to the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment for approval. The municipality also included lists of projects which it plans to implement in the coming seven years.

Commenting on the budget, the chairman of the municipality's committee, Mr. Salem Al Qudah, said that this year's general budget amounted to JD 3,216,664 and the budget for water projects was JD 972,624.

This year the municipality has made allocations in its budget for opening and asphalted streets and roads, building culverts and bridges, purchasing equipment for the municipality's offices, conducting a feasibility study on traffic lights for Zarqa, buying cars and vehicles, maintaining roads, building a conference hall for the municipality, purchasing land for future projects, building pavements and road-shoulders, public parks and a complex for use by trade unions, buying materials for eliminating rodents and insects, and the maintenance of gardens and street lights.

The water budget provides for purchasing machinery, replacing old pipe networks with new ones, erecting water towers, purchasing water and installing water pumps, buying water meters and drilling artesian wells and paying back loans, Mr. Qudah said.

According to Mr. Qudah, the municipality intends to spend JD 1.4 million on building roads and opening streets in Zarqa over the coming seven years, and has allocated other funds for its projects during this period. He said that the municipality, in addition to building

roads, plans to establish an industrial and crafts zone in Zarqa, build new offices for the municipality, establish a slaughter house for poultry and sheep, conduct a feasibility study on building a sports city, build eight cultural and community centres, bridges, and culverts.

The plan, he said, provides also for purchasing land for establishing a car park, improving public services and widening streets, building a new market place and public utilities.

Hassan to open Mideast liberal discussions today

AMMAN (J.T.) — A conference for representatives of liberal parties in the Arab World and Europe is to open in Amman Monday under the chairmanship of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent.

The two-day conference is expected to tackle the developments in the Middle East region, the Palestine problem and means of establishing a just peace in the region. Personalities and intellectuals from the Arab World will be present at the conference, together with delegates from Austria, Canada, Finland, France, Italy, Holland, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Britain and Iceland.

Among the participants will be Secretary-General of the Arab Thought Forum Khalil Salem, Secretary-General of the Arab Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture Burhan Dafani, Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council Abdullah Beshara, Bahraini Minister of Industry and Development Yusef Sherawi, member of the Egyptian Bar Association, Yahya Jamal, Iraqi Under-Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ismael Khataneh, the secretary-general of the Arab Organisation for Human Rights and the professor of sociology at the American University in Cairo.

Tafila, Karak register voters for municipal council elections

TAFILA (Petra) — Tafila District Governor and Chairman of Tafila Municipality Elections Committee Mohammad Al Tahouni has decided to extend the period for registering voters for the Tafila Municipality elections for five more days. The final registration date is now Thursday.

Chairman of the Voters Registration Committee Khaleel Al Awajeeh said that the number of voters who had registered so far totalled 3,100 in preparation for

elections scheduled to take place in the municipality on Nov. 15.

Meanwhile elections for the municipalities of Karak, Oatrana and Al Rabba in Karak Governorate will be held on Nov. 20, 11 and 13 respectively. The number of voters registered in the three municipalities so far is as follows: Karak Municipality 6001, Oatrana Municipality 812 and Al Rabba Municipality 688 persons have registered.

JIPA organises training course for army officers

AMMAN (Petra) — Institute of Public Administration (JIPA) Director Abdullah Elayyan said that a training course on top management will be held for high-ranking Jordan Armed Forces officers at the Royal Society of Sciences (RSS) on Sept. 15.

He added that the eight-week course, to be held by the JIPA in co-operation with the Jordan Armed Forces General Headquarters, aims to provide the high-ranking officers with the necessary knowledge and leadership skills to rationalise decision-making in administrative and technical fields with concentration on quantitative methods.

Policewomen prepare for new courses, sixth anniversary of training institute

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Princess Basma Women's Police Institute is making preparations for a new course in the training of policewomen to start in the middle of this month to mark the institute's sixth anniversary.

There will be 25 trainees in the new course, all secondary school graduates who will spend four months in rigorous training before becoming fully-fledged policewomen, according to the institute's director Captain Husheh Shaheen.

Speaking in a recent interview, Capt. Shaheen said that women police are part of the public security department's police force in Jordan and are subject to all regulations and laws governing their male colleagues.

"Six years have passed since the institute came into being and I can proudly say that Jordan, now has skilled women trainers in police work, in the use of light arms and in martial arts like Judo, Tae Kwon Do and Karate," Capt. Shaheen said.

In addition to the normal courses organised by the institute for policewomen, there are a number of courses for friends of policewomen and refresher courses for those already in service, Capt.



Policewomen go through their paces during training at the Princess Basma Women's Police Institute (Petra photo).

Shaheen pointed out. She said that the graduation of policewomen from the institute and their work in various departments have proved the skills of women and their ability to do work as efficiently and skillfully as men.

"It is due to the high efficiency of our policewomen and their high-level of training that other Arab countries are seeking to benefit from our experience in training their own policewomen," Capt. Shaheen said, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates are among these countries, Capt. Shaheen added.

According to the institute's director, the graduates are employed by the public security department in criminal investigations, criminal laboratory work, traffic duties, at the drivers and vehicles licensing department, the statistics, tourist guidance and other centres. They also take on varied tasks connected with maintaining law and order, and therefore render good services to their fellow citizens, Capt. Shaheen said.

"The fact that we receive applications from female school students long before we advertise for the training course reflects the public interest in our work," Capt. Shaheen concluded.

Aqaba reconciles industrial, tourism developments through long-term planning, rational expansion

By Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

This is the first in a series of three articles on the development, activities and future plans for the port city of Aqaba. In this article the historical and geographical background of the area is outlined.

AQABA — Like the gentle Red Sea tides, whose waves splash up against its warm sands, the fortunes of the history-drenched city of Aqaba have gone up and down for over three thousand years. Today, this port-resort on the Gulf of Aqaba, at the southernmost tip of Jordan, is once again riding a wave of growth and economic prosperity. It may also be teaching other cities in the Middle East a valuable lesson: how to reconcile the different needs of industry, tourism, transport and the people who inhabit and visit the city.

For such a small, out-of-the-way place that was largely overlooked by the powers of the Middle East during the past five-hundred years, Aqaba almost suffers an embarrassment of riches today. It is, at once, Jordan's only port, an important transit point for goods shipped to other nearby Arab states, a vital industrial zone for Jordan's growing economy, a sunny, warm winter-resort blessed

with fine weather and sandy beaches (ringed by mountains and generously covered in palm trees), and a unique natural environment zone that boasts some of the world's finest underwater marine life.

All of these aspects of the city have developed briskly during the past decade, when the oil-fuelled Mideast boom of the 1970s snapped it out of its former sleepy fishing-village mentality. Between 1960 and 1984, the city's population more than quadrupled, from 8,900 to 40,000 inhabitants. The port has been expanded twice, bringing with it thousands of new technicians and labourers. New industries have been installed. An entirely new tourist infrastructure and an international airport have been built. A new railway line links it with the phosphate mines in central Jordan. Hospitals, schools, houses, roads and utility networks have been built and expanded several times.

Long-range planning

That Aqaba has grown so quickly is not, in itself, such a surprise given the combination of economic incentives, long-range government planning and enthusiastic investment by the private sector. Aqaba today is noteworthy for the way it has tried to strike a balance between competing demands on its limited space, thereby providing a refreshing model of disciplined, long-range town planning that seems to work.

For the entire shoreline of Aqaba is just 27 kilometres long; it is delineated by the sea and the Israeli frontier to the west, the Saudi Arabian border to the south, the Wadi Araba desert to the north and a dramatic chain of low mountains to the east. However its location and physical limitations are also Aqaba's virtues.

Aqaba straddles the northeastern coast of the bay at the end of the 180-kilometre-long Gulf of Aqaba. The gulf is a jutting finger of the Red Sea, bounded for most of its length by two great land masses — the Saudi Arabian peninsula to the east and the Sinai Peninsula to the west. It forms part of the Great Rift Valley

that splices the earth's crust in a straight route from Turkey in the north to Kenya in the south. The gulf is deep and narrow, ranging from five to 20 kilometres wide and dropping swiftly to depths of between 1,000 and 1,800 metres. At its southern end, only a narrow channel links it with the Red Sea.

This forms an almost totally protected environmental zone that has produced the hundreds of species of spectacular fish, coral and other exotic marine life that attract divers, snorkelers and underwater enthusiasts from all over the world.

The touristic attraction of the city is enhanced by its kind weather and clean environment. The mean air temperature ranges between 32 degrees Centigrade in summer and 18 degrees Centigrade in winter, always complemented by a steady breeze from the north. The water temperature averages 20 degrees Centigrade in winter and 26 degrees Centigrade in summer. The wind, coupled with steady currents and tidal movements within the gulf and high sunlight intensity at the surface, keeps the Aqaba waters clean and clear.

Marine life

The stable gulf environment has remained virtually unchanged for thousands of years, producing the remarkably rich marine life that is best known for its rich coral reefs and hundreds of species of associated plants, fish and other marine animals that form the Gulf of Aqaba's underwater ecosystem. Over 140 species of coral have been identified to date, most of them easily accessible to divers and snorkelers setting off from the city beaches.

If the marine life of the water has remained constant for thousands of years, the fortunes of the city itself have not. Aqaba has a long history as a strategically located seaport that dates back at least 3000 years, to the biblical Iron Age period when the Edomite kingdom flourished in south Jordan. Excavations at Tell Khulaf, to the north-west of the city centre, have revealed the remains of copper smelting facilities that made use of the northern winds to fan the great furnaces in which copper from Wadi Araba was smelted.

This was probably the port



The contrasting functions of Aqaba as a port and as a water sports and recreation centre have necessitated careful planning in order to utilise the limited available space (Photo Rami G. Khouri)

Ruling the waves to create electricity

The use of wave power to create electricity would be a significant advance for energy-poor Third World countries. The following article examines the progress of such an experiment.

By John Madeley

RIAMBEL BAY, Mauritius — This Indian Ocean island could become the first country in Africa to generate electricity for its citizens from the power of the sea. Recent tests have confirmed that the possibility of harnessing wave power at Riambel Bay on the south coast is "very significant."

Only lack of political imagination now seems to be holding back a bold scheme that could be of great significance for many developing nations with shores lapped continuously by energy-producing waves.

Anyone who has stood on the edge of the ocean and been almost knocked over by a wave knows the power of these breakers from the sea. That power is constantly renewable; it flows for 24 hours, seven days a week, and could be important in an energy-hungry world as oil and other non-renewable sources begin to run out.

For the "Third World," wave energy has a special significance — the West does not have a monopoly over it. Most of the waves that could be harnessed lap the shores of developing countries.

It was in the mid 1960s that officials at the Mauritius Central Electricity Board began to examine the possibility of harnessing the wave power that laps Riambel Bay. A British firm of hydroelectric consultants confirmed that the scheme was technically feasible. The comparatively low cost of oil at the time and an absence of rigorous tests to assess economic viability caused the scheme to be shelved, even though the Indian Ocean island has no fossil fuels of its own.

Oil is now a great deal more expensive than it was 20 years ago, and new tests have been instituted which show promise for the viability of the wave project.

Researchers at the University of Mauritius have found that sea waves at Riambel Bay vary in height from 1.67 meters to 2.86 meters, with the average height 2.14 metres. These waves could be harnessed by a sloping wall in the Indian Ocean, using coral reef as a base. The wall would eventually be five kilometres long, but only one kilometre in the first stage.

Building the wall would be a challenge for civil engineers, but

does not appear to present any insurmountable problems. This sloping wall would be linked to the shore by side walls at each end, one of which would contain turbo rams (water wheels). An enclosed reservoir would thereby be created. The sloping wall is designed to allow the minimum resistance to the incoming waves, the exact opposite of a breakwater wall.

The idea is that sea waves would crash over the wall and fill the enclosed reservoir to a height of about 2.5 meters to three meters above sea level. This water then drives the turbo rams in the side wall; these wheels require no other source of energy.

"Part of the water in the reservoir is then used to pump the remaining water to a higher level reservoir," explains Noel Bott, former chairman and general manager of the Mauritius CEB, and one of the scheme's designers.

In turn, this higher reservoir supplies a conventional hydroelectric generating plant that feeds the island's public electricity system.

"The potential of harnessing wave energy from Riambel Bay is very significant," according to T.R. Saha of the University of Mauritius, who was involved in the testing of wave heights.

Estimates suggest that electricity from the scheme could be produced for less than three U.S. cents per KWh, which compares favourably with the cost of electricity produced from imported oil or from some of the country's hydro-electric plants.

Total power from the full scheme, with the five-kilometre wall, could provide around 20MW of electricity, worth over \$7.5 million a year. This power would meet a fifth of the electricity needs of Mauritius, an island of 983,000 people, and mean that less oil would need to be imported — a key consideration in terms of foreign exchange saving. Once the

scheme is underway, maintenance costs would be minimal.

Mr. Bott believes that any country with a constant wave action coming onto its shores could harness power in an economical way.

A spin-off benefit is that the enclosed sea reservoir would be ideal for commercial fish farming. Into the reservoir would flow fish from the ocean, plus a regular supply of oxygenated water.

Fish output from the reservoir is estimated at more than 1,000 tons a year. Britain's White Fish Authority believes the value of the fish caught would actually exceed the energy benefit.

The vast amount of water passing through the system, believes Mr. Bott, might also allow for the extraction of minerals.

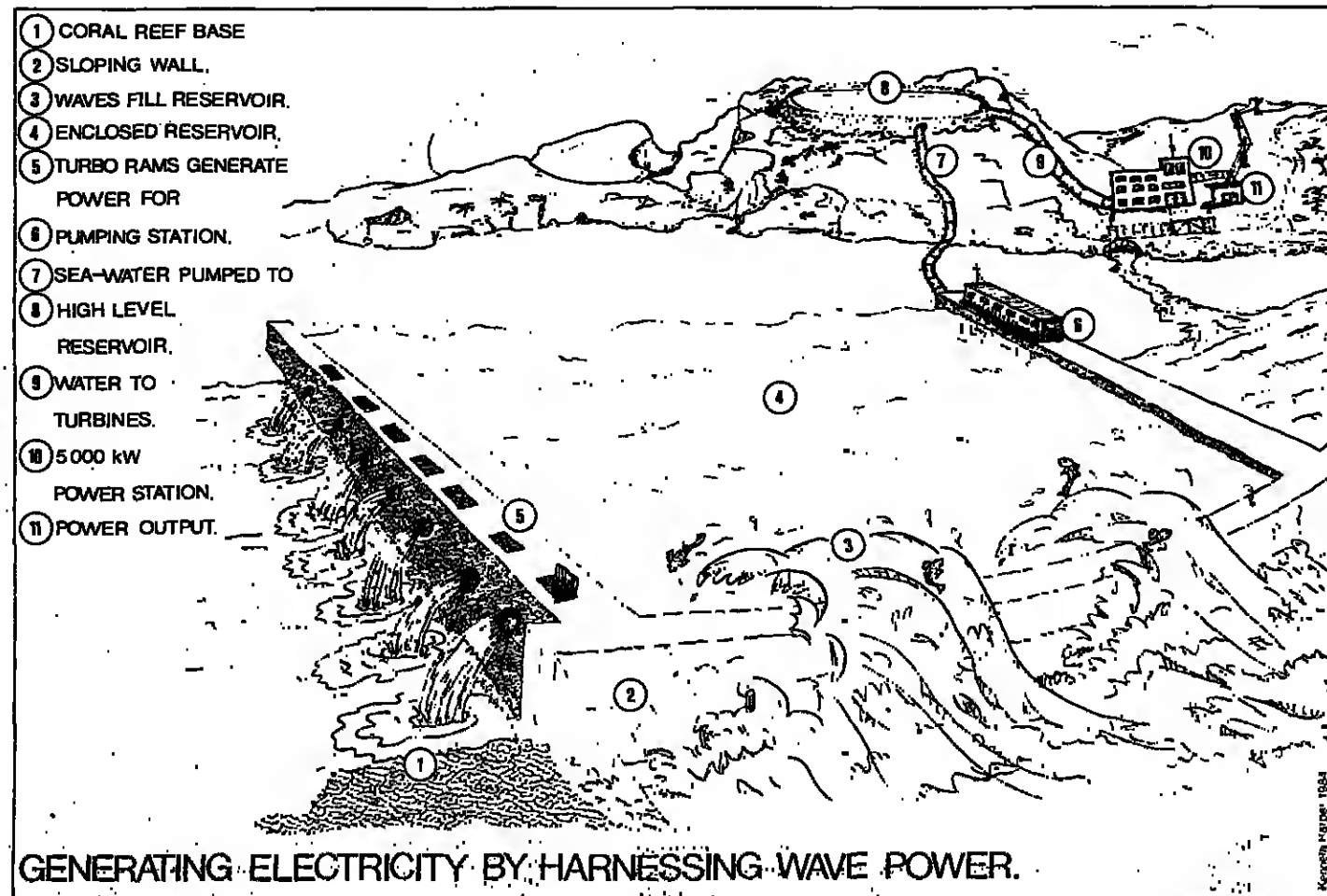
The cost of the full scheme with a five kilometre wall is around \$37.5 million, but at first a pilot scheme would be mounted with a wall one kilometre long; cost for this would be around \$10.5 million. The EC's European Development Fund is known to be

sympathetic about finance.

So with Mauritius paying out money it can ill afford for foreign oil, what is holding back the scheme? "Quite simply, an overdose of political caution," said one official. "It is a bold scheme, and would be the first of its kind in Africa; government ministers are worried in case anything goes wrong."

If Mauritius delays much longer, other countries might leap in first. The governments of Mauritius, Madagascar, the Comoros Islands and other Indian Ocean territories met in 1982 and agreed that Riambel Bay should be the first wave power scheme in the region, and several of the other countries are getting restless about the delay.

With the world likely to be short of energy by the end of the century, the Mauritius wave scheme could be the forerunner of many of its kind. Political caution in this instance begins to look like bad politics. — Compass feature.



Record number of foreign students in U.S.

By Ed Scherr

WASHINGTON — A record 338,890 foreign students were enrolled in U.S. colleges and universities during the 1983-84 school year, according to a report made public this week.

The foreign student enrollment, up 0.6 per cent from the previous year, comprised almost three per cent of all students attending American institutes of higher education during that school year.

The Institute of International Education (IIE) says in its annual census of foreign students in the United States that enrollment from South and East Asia increased by 10.5 per cent, while the number of students in the United States from the Middle East, Latin America (except for the Caribbean), East Europe, and Africa

(except for Eastern and Southern Africa) declined.

The largest group of students came from Taiwan, followed by Iran, Nigeria and Malaysia. The study of engineering continued to attract the largest number of foreign students.

The New York-based Institute of International Education is the largest non-profit organization in the field of educational and cultural exchanges. The annual census was supported by a grant from the United States Information Agency.

According to the 1983-84 figures, Africa had 41,690 students at U.S. schools, a decline of 2.3 per cent from the 1982-1983 academic year; Eastern Europe had 1,810 students, a fall of 9.5 per cent; Western Europe 30,050, up 1.6 per cent; Latin America had

52,350 down 7.9 per cent, the Middle East 60,660 students, down 9.8 per cent; Oceania 4,090, up 1.2 per cent and South and East Asia enrolled 132,270 students, up 10.5 per cent.

Several Asian countries showed large percentage increases in their U.S. enrollments. China had 8,140 students, an increase of 30.7 per cent. It was followed by Malaysia with a 29 per cent increase to 18,150 students; South Korea with 13,860 students, an increase of 22 per cent, and Indonesia, which increased by 21.5 per cent to 6,110 students.

Iran lost its position as the leading source of foreign students in the United States with an almost 24 per cent decline. Since 1979-1980 the number of students from Iran has fallen some 60 per cent

from a high that year of 51,310 students to 20,360 during the 1983-84 period.

According to the IIE report, Taiwan with 21,960 is now the leading source of foreign students in the United States.

Besides Iran, other leading countries with students in the United States include: Nigeria (20,080 students), Malaysia (18,150), Canada (15,150), the Republic of Korea (13,860), India (13,730), Venezuela (13,440) and Japan (13,010).

Some 78,160 foreign students during the 1983-84 year were studying engineering. This group was 23.1 per cent of all the foreign students. Also attracting large numbers of foreign students were business and management studies with 63,000 students (18.6 per

cent of foreign students) and mathematics and computer sciences with 30,850 (9.1 per cent).

California with 47,246 is the U.S. state with the largest number of foreign college students followed by New York with 29,546 and Texas with 28,269.

The U.S. school with the largest foreign enrollment is Miami-Dade (Florida) Community College with 4,388. Other schools with large groups of foreign students include: University of Southern California (3,752), University of Texas, Austin (3,236), University of Wisconsin, Madison (2,775) and Columbia University of New York City (2,658).

The IIE census also reports that only 29.4 per cent of foreign students in the United States are women. — USIA.

Rehabilitation centres revive hope for Lebanon handicapped

By Abdullah Matar
Reuter

BEIRUT — Hani Abou Dahan, a 22-year-old former Lebanese soldier, is one of tens of thousands of people crippled or partially disabled in Lebanon's civil war.

According to Beirut's privately operated Handicapped Welfare Association there are about 40,000 handicapped war victims in Lebanon after nine years of sectarian fighting and foreign invasion.

The association is one of about 25 rehabilitation centres throughout the country where victims learn to use artificial limbs and to overcome paralysis or other handicaps.

Mr. Dahan, who lost both legs in a landmine explosion last February, is among 25 people learning to walk on artificial limbs at a Shi'ite Muslim centre in Beirut's southern suburbs.

He is still confined to a wheelchair, but each day he takes a few halting steps with the help of physiotherapists.

Like many other victims, his rehabilitation will include training in new skills with which to earn a living when he returns to civilian life, such as textile printing and wood carving.

Rehabilitation centres are tre-

ating scores of other victims of the round of fighting and shelling that raged from September 1983 until the guns fell silent in Beirut two months ago.

Officials at two centres said they estimated about 1,500 people in Lebanon had lost one or both legs since 1976.

Father George Kiraj, director of a centre for the disabled in the mountain village of Beit Shabab above Beirut, said 84 handicapped people were undergoing training there on the use of artificial limbs.

An expert at one centre said rehabilitating Lebanon's war wounded involved far more than helping those who had lost their limbs, adding the centres had to deal with many other injuries.

At the Shi'ite centre, Youssef Dargham, 23, said he was hit by shrapnel when Israeli gunboats shelled the southern suburbs during the 1982 invasion of Lebanon. He is partly paralysed.

Another victim at the centre was a 20-year-old woman, Ghada Zein, paralysed by a bullet in the back during clashes in West Beirut last March between rival factions.

Ghada, a high school student, said she hoped to learn to walk as soon as possible, and sit exams next year that she was unable to attend this year.

At Beirut's main hospitals artificial legs are being fitted almost daily. At Berbir Hospital in mainly Muslim west Beirut a villager from Israeli-occupied South Lebanon had two artificial legs and a hand prosthesis.

Doctors said the 40-year-old man, injured during the 1982 Israeli invasion, would be able to drive a car after his artificial legs were fitted.

At the American University hospital, officials said that between May 1983 and May 1984, the legs of 26 people aged between 18 and 70 were amputated.

At a hospital in Christian east Beirut, artificial-leg experts said 23 people had leg amputations between September 1983 and last July and were now at rehabilitation centres in Lebanon or abroad.

The Shi'ite centre's Dr. Ghassan Issa said his centre had sent 75 disabled men to Italy for rehabilitation because of its lack of modern equipment. Another 50 disabled people were sent to the United States with the help of a U.S.-Arab committee.

Issa said the Dutch government had recently agreed to set up a permanent rehabilitation centre in the southern suburbs and a Dutch medical mission had already fitted some 300 handicapped people with artificial legs.

Restoring the desert palm

The world's date palm population is under threat from a deadly fungal disease, but French scientists have perfected a test tube version that could mean big business in Arab countries and other parts of the world, reports David Marsh.

PARIS — "You are as stately as a palm tree; your breasts are the clusters of dates," wrote with lyrical rapture the Old Testament poet in the Song of Songs.

To the distress of Western dried fruit fanciers and Arab oasis dwellers alike, the date palms of North Africa and the Middle East since Biblical times have lost their bloom. The oases of Maghreb countries, in particular, are threatened by a deadly fungal disease which has destroyed two-thirds of Morocco's date palms this century.

Now, nearly 3,000 years after King Solomon, palm days may be here again. French scientists have perfected ways of restocking the world's date palm population — with disease-resistant, test tube-cultivated breeds grown in the Loire Valley laboratory of a Jesuit priest.

Restoring palms in the deserts may be big business. Total, the French state controlled oil company, which already helps run agricultural projects in Abu Dhabi and Oman, has held talks with French scientific institutes about setting up a possible joint venture to market test tube date palms in Arab countries and other parts of the world.

The techniques interest not only Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia, most immediately affected by the killer Bayoud mushroom which has spread out dramatically, mainly following trade and caravan routes, after first making its presence felt in Saharan Morocco at the end of the last century.

Other countries ranging from Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Iraq and Somalia to Venezuela and South Africa are also keen to rejuvenate palm plantations with disease-free varieties promising longer lives, sturdier fronds and juicier dates.

The date palm is not only an important source of food, shelter and materials for desert populations but can also influence the national economy. Morocco now has to import dates after being a prime supplier to Western markets 100 years ago.

Mr. Georges Toutain, an international expert on desert agriculture at France's National Agronomical Research Institute (INRA), spent seven years during the 1960s drawing up a genetic inventory of Morocco's five million date palms (down from 15 million in 1900) in a bid to find resistant varieties.

With fungicides and chemicals impractical or useless, he says that painstaking genetic tracking is the only means of combating the fungus, which attacks roots from deep in the soil and, he believes, potentially menaces all the world's 95 million date palms.

"I carried out systematic prospecting, village by village. The people invited me into their gardens."

To aid planting of resistant varieties, speeding up the slow natural reproduction through palm offshoots, Mr. Toutain in 1968 enlisted the help of artificial methods of tissue culture. The man he turned to was Father Gildas Beauchesne, the Jesuit scientist at the head of the public sector Angers vegetable research institute on the Loire in Western France.

After starting in-vitro plant research with lilies, chrysanthemums and geraniums for local horticulturists, M. Beauchesne, a mild-mannered and bespectacled 64-year-old with a cranium speckled by the sun, now has several hundred different plant types, some exotic, sprouting in sterilised test tube luxuriance.

Although he is still vexed by

high infant palm mortality, about 15,000 plants have already left Angers, via greenhouses in the south of France, for Moroccan oases. M. Beauchesne, who professes only a moderate appetite for dates but enjoys eating meat, will be Morocco-bound himself at the end of the year to take up a retirement post as head of the country's own test tube breeding centre at Marrakesh.

Total, although it has not yet decided definitely to go ahead, with the date palm venture, is attracted by the idea of building technological links with oil-producing countries.

It is not the only one. Executives from Twyford Plant Laboratories, a company based near Glastonbury in Somerset in the U.K. and backed by U.S. and U.K. venture capital, which claims to be the world's largest commercial test tube plant group, have been wooing the French in recent months about setting up a joint Franco-British venture.

The company, which employs about 100 people, already has strong contacts in date palm breeding with most Arab countries. Mr. Beauchesne believes a British tie-up would open up commercial vistas ranging from tropical medicinal plants to the Mexican-origin joboba, a species already produced in the Angers laboratories which produces an oil useful in lubricants, foodstuffs and cosmetics.

But the French government is giving clear signals that it would frown on a dual oasis replanting effort in a part of the world where Britain and France were once colonial rivals. "Total looks like a stumbling block to further development," says Mr. John Spurr, head of Twyford Plant Laboratories palm group, who has led his company's contacts with the French. "It's a shame."

Mr. Beauchesne agrees. "Together," he says, "we would be unbeatable." — Financial Times news feature.

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McEnroe, Lendl meet in U.S. Open final

Navratilova claims 2nd consecutive title

NEW YORK (R) — Martina Navratilova won her second consecutive U.S. Open tennis title while John McEnroe and Ivan Lendl survived five-set struggles to reach the men's finals.

Top-seeded Navratilova battled back to beat second seed Chris Evert Lloyd 4-6, 6-4, 6-4 in the women's final for her 55th consecutive victory.

Second-seeded Lendl of Czechoslovakia survived a matchpoint against him to beat 19-year-old Pat Cash of Australia, the 15th seed, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4, 6-7, 7-6.

And on Saturday night, top-seeded McEnroe, seeking his fourth Open title, thwarted third seed Jimmy Connors bid for a third straight Open championship with a 6-4, 4-6, 7-5, 4-6, 6-3 triumph.

In perhaps the most memorable day in the history of the Open, all three matches produced spectacular play and high drama that had a capacity crowd of 20,811 in uproar for 10 hours.

Lloyd's inability to capitalise on several opportunities on crucial

points in the third set of the one-hour match proved costly to the six-times Open champion.

After dropping her serve for the only time, at love in the third game, Lloyd failed to convert on a breakpoint in the sixth game that would have drawn her even at 3-3.

Lloyd moved ahead, 30-15 on two dazzling crosscourt service-return winners. But on the next point, with Navratilova at the net, she lobbed short, enabling the defending champion to score with an overhead.

Lloyd then reached breakpoint with a forehand winner, but then committed three straight errors to make it 4-2, Navratilova.

Navratilova then held her final two service games at 30 and 15 to wrap up the match.

It was Navratilova's 31st victory over Lloyd in 61 meetings, but one of the hardest fought and best played in their long rivalry.

Navratilova, in winning her sixth straight Grand Slam event, argued repeatedly with linesmen and the umpire during the match before a capacity, pro-Lloyd crowd at the U.S. National Tennis Centre. But, unlike in the past, the disputes did not break her concentration.

Navratilova drilled in five aces but had trouble with her service throughout. She compensated for her service deficiencies with her strong net play and her lethal overhead. And she was masterful with her groundstrokes, putting Lloyd out of position and then scoring at the net or with passing shots.

Lloyd electrified the crowd by winning the opening set when she came back from a 3-4 deficit to win the last three games as she broke Navratilova twice in a row. She won the set with a flourish, scoring with a backhand crosscourt and a forehand volley.

A service break at love in the third game by Navratilova proved decisive in the second set. But in

the 10th game, with Navratilova serving for the set, Lloyd had a chance to draw even when she got to 15-40 on Navratilova's service.

But then Lloyd erred on four of the last five points to enable Navratilova to hold serve and square it at a set apiece.

"I just reached down and pulled everything I had in me," Navratilova said. "Nothing was going my way — the calls, crucial net-cords, the crowd."

"I'm glad it was close. Chris pushes me to my best tennis."

"I probably surprised Chris and surprised myself with how bad I wanted it," she added.

Lloyd was disappointed at having squandered a number of crucial points.

"This match was very disappointing for me," said Lloyd, who had been routed by Navratilova 6-1, 6-3 in last year's final and lost to her 7-6, 6-2 in this year's Wimbledon final.

"After playing so well against her at Wimbledon, I thought the U.S. Open would be my chance," Lloyd said.



Martina Navratilova powering her way to a second U.S. Open tennis title. She beat Chris Evert Lloyd 4-6, 6-4, 6-4.

Lauda romps to victory in Italian Grand Prix

MONZA, Italy (R) — Niki Lauda of Austria won Sunday's Italian motor racing Grand Prix, bringing a third world championship further within his grasp.

Lauda completed the 51 laps in one hour 20 minutes 29.065 seconds for an average speed of 220.514 kph to finish a comfortable 24 seconds ahead of Italian Michele Alboreto.

The 35-year-old Austrian took the lead nine laps from home in his McLaren when he overhauled first Italian Teo Fabi in his Brabham and then Patrick Tambay of France driving a Renault.

Lauda's French teammate and nearest challenger for the world drivers' title, Alain Prost, had to abandon his car with only two laps gone when smoke started to belch from his engine.

With only two races left this season, Lauda now leads the drivers' championship with 63 points, ahead of Prost who has 52.5 points.

One of these two will dethrone reigning World Champion Nelson Piquet of Brazil, who started in pole position Sunday but was forced out with a broken turbo-charger after leading in his Brabham for the first 15 laps.

After being overtaken both Fabi and Tambay dropped out, leaving the Italian crowd to cheer home Alboreto in the Ferrari.

Other early casualties in the race included Britain's Nigel Mansell driving a Lotus who pulled out after 13 laps when his car spun off the track into a sand bank.

Ferrari driver Rene Arnoux of France was also forced out on the seventh lap with engine trouble.

Bayern tops German football league with perfect record

BONN (R) — Bayern Munich maintained their dominance of the West German first division with a 3-1 win at Bayer Uerdingen Saturday. It was their fourth consecutive victory and ensured they kept their 100 per cent record this season.

The win, their third away this season, kept them three points clear of second-placed Borussia Moenchengladbach.

The departure to Italy of striker Karl-Heinz Rummenigge seems to have done Munich little harm with Lothar Mathaeus, Roland Wolfarth and Soeren Lerby all blossoming in his absence. They scored Bayern's three goals.

Champions Stuttgart recovered some ground after a shaky start to

the season with a convincing 3-2 away win at Arminia Bielefeld. Belgian international Nico Claessen and Karl Allgower both scored hat-tricks.

Norbert Meier also scored three in Werder Bremen's 6-2 home win over Cologne. The defeat ended a bleak week for Cologne who lost international winger Pierre Littbarski during the week with a collapsed lung.

Second-placed Borussia won 3-2 at Dortmund on Friday and Mannheim won 1-0 at Eintracht Brunswick.

Hamburg recovered from their shock cup defeat by the amateurs Geislingen last week by drawing 0-0 at Bochum.

Cram ends season on high note

JARROW, England (R) — World 1,500 metres champion Steve Cram of Britain bounced back to form and ended his English track and field season triumphantly in front of his home crowd Sunday.

Cram, who fell on the final lap and finished last in his clash over one mile with Morocco's Said Aouita in London on Friday, outpaced New Zealand's John Wal-

ker over the distance here.

Cram responded when the former mile world record-holder, who was runner-up to Olympic 5,000 metres champion Aouita on Friday, edged ahead 250 metres from the finish.

He kicked past Walker off the last bend to win by six metres in three minutes 57.76 seconds.

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1. The first consisting of four bedrooms, two large salons, lounge, three bathrooms, and two verandas with central heating.

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2. The second is a ground floor flat consisting of two rooms, salon and two bathrooms.

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Cinema
AL-HUSSEIN

Tel: 22117

RETURN OF
THE JEDI
- THE INVINCIBLE
NINJA (Colour)

Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema
RAINBOW

Tel: 25155

1- BEAT STREET
2- RETURN OF
THE JEDI
(Colour)

3:30 6:00 8:30 10:30 p.m.

Cinema
ZAHARAN

Tel: 23171

THE
COMPLICATED
DOMINOES

Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema
OPERA

JAMES BOND 007
IN OCTOPUSSY

(Colour)

Abdell, behind ALIA offices

Cinema
PALESTINE

Tel: 22117

1- DOSH BREMO
2- FIERCE MEN &
MONKEY

Performances: 12-3-7

Cinema
RAGHADAN

Tel: 22198

REVOLTING
HAWKS
"Indian Film"
(Colour)

Performances: 12-3-5:30-8

Army, Chinese form air transport firm

PEKING (R) — A new airline formed by the Chinese air force and the Wuhan City to challenge the nation's inefficient state-owned carrier has taken to the air.

The New China News Agency said Sunday the Wuhan Air Transport Service Company began modestly Saturday by flying four tonnes of eels and edible tortoiseshells from Wuhan in central China to Guangzhou in the south.

The cargo will be exported to Hong Kong.

The firm plans to develop international routes and passenger services, the agency added.

An air force unit based at Wuhan has provided planes and airfield facilities for the firm, a collective enterprise responsible for its own profits and losses.

The national carrier, the Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC), is notorious for inefficiency and rudeness to passengers and there have been complaints from China's leaders and press.

The government has said it will allow the creation of local airlines to compete with CAAC — but until now only the national carrier could provide planes to regions and cities wishing to get into the business.

CAAC is fighting to prevent future regional lines from cooperating with foreign companies.

CAAC Director General Shen Tu told the China Daily last month: "It is in principle undesirable to run domestic flights

jointly with foreign air companies."

The national carrier has already agreed to set up an airline with the Xiamen special economic zone in Fujian province, and other cities and regions including Guangzhou, Guizhou, Guangxi and Xinjiang have had their own talks with CAAC.

China's military industries are encouraged to provide services for the civilian sector under the country's modernisation drive.

Fresh talks open on U.K. strike

LONDON (R) — Miners and the state-run National Coal Board began fresh peace talks at a secret venue Sunday to try to end what has become one of the epic strikes in Britain's labour history.

The coal strike has lasted six months, leading to frequently bloody clashes between miners and policemen. But there is little optimism in government or industry that Sunday's talks will finally produce a settlement.

Political sources say Queen Elizabeth has been more disturbed

by the coal strike than by any other British social issue since inner-city riots three years ago. Saturday night Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher briefed the queen at her Scottish residence of Balmoral on the dispute.

The two sides last met on July 18, when negotiations broke down

over the key issue of pit closures. The National Coal Board wants to close uneconomic pits, while the miners' union says only exhausted mines should shut.

Neither side has softened its position since the last encounters. The dispute has developed into a set-piece battle between a union determined to show it still has industrial muscle and a Conservative government equally set to trim trade union power.

The stoppage has hurt the economy, divided the miners and for months caused almost daily industrial violence, as pickets trying to prevent non-strikers going to work are contained by police in an expensive protective operation.

The latest meeting between miners and employers, the ninth since the strike began, will be held at an undisclosed meeting place.

Both miners' leader Mr. Arthur Scargill and coal board boss Mr. Ian MacGregor are expected to take part.

Over the last few weeks there has been a slight drift back to work in some coalfields, but most of the miners are still on strike.

At the end of last week coal board officials said 42 pits were working normally and 102 were on strike.

Arabsat: Hold-ups on the countdown

The Middle East's first communications satellite should be in orbit by early next year. Arabsat 1 will be the culmination of years of effort, and a rare degree of regional political and technical cooperation — but its space launch will not have been without problems. The satellite, now in the final stages of testing by a French-U.S. consortium, was originally to have been launched in January 1984. That deadline passed without lift-off — and it now looks as though the next launch date, in November, will also be missed, writes Robert Bailey of Middle East Economic Digest (MEED).

The end of 1984 should have seen a gathering of Middle East visitors at Kourou in French Guiana to witness the launch of the first of two communications satellites for the Arab Satellite Communications Organisation (ASCO).

Watching the rocket and its payload soar into space would have been a dramatic moment for those who have kept faith in a project representing the culmination of a rare degree of regional political and technical cooperation. But it seems that those who expected lift-off for the much delayed Arabsat project are once again going to be disappointed.

The Arabsat scheme has been fraught with delays and problems. It was nearly 30 years ago that the idea of developing a regional communications link was proposed. But it was not until May 1981 that ASCO ordered three satellites from France's Aerospatiale and its prime subcontractor, the U.S. Ford Aerospace and Communications.

The \$134 million contract was for completion in 30 months. But the original January 1984 deadline came and went without lift-off, and latest reports indicate that the next deadline, in November, will also be missed.

At present, the two companies are in the final stages of testing the satellites. As recently as March, Aerospatiale was saying the first would be delivered in July, for a Nov. 9 launch on the European Space Agency's (ESA's) Ariane 3 rocket.

The timetable has since been revised: on Aug. 24, an official from the company's space and ballistic systems division in Cannes said the first of the three satellites

— of which one will be a ground spare — would be delivered in the first week of September, and the second by the end of January 1985.

ESA's commercial division, ArianeSpace, confirms the delay: It told MEED on Aug. 27 that the November launch was definitely off. This is despite the fact that a September delivery — if met — would give ample time for a lift-off two months later at ESA's Kourou space centre.

The company would say only that the launch will be at "the beginning of next year."

Despite Arabsat 1's probable absence, Ariane 3 will still take off, carrying General Telephone and Electronics Corporation's (GTE's) Spacenet 2 satellite.

This, the second commercial launch for the U.S. corporation, will make a further dent in the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA's) virtual monopoly on commercial satellite launches.

The place vacated by Arabsat will be filled by the Marecs B2 satellite, being put into orbit for the U.K.-based International Maritime Satellite Organisation.

Aerospatiale "blames" Arabsat 1's delays mainly on problems encountered by Ford with the U.S. administration and Congress.

Both dithered about authorising the export of the satellite's sophisticated electronics payload — including key telemetry, command and propulsion parts — which accounts for more than half the contract value.

One reason for the latest hold-up is the slow progress being made on the scheme's ground stations. Once launched, the satellites are designed to move in a geo-

stationary orbit 22,000 miles above the earth, covering an area from the Atlantic to the Indian Ocean, and from the Mediterranean to the Sahara and Horn of Africa.

Twenty-five transponders — the parts that receive and transmit signals — will provide 8,000 simultaneous telephone circuits or equivalent traffic in other types of transmissions, plus seven television channels.

To be able to use the system, ASCO's 22 members have to build 11-metre dish satellite earth stations.

A \$35.8 million contract for the main Telemetry, Tracking, Command and Monitoring (TTTCM) station at Dirab, near Riyadh, went to Japan's Nippon Electric Company in 1983. And in April, ASCO Director-General Ali Al Mahasbi said 15 of the organisation's members "have signed, or are about to sign, contracts for the procurement of earth stations."

Capacity use of the system, also designed to provide community television, is planned by 1991, he added.

But most countries have been less than enthusiastic in their response to the task of building earth stations.

Few centres are believed to be fully operational; most are not completed. The foundation stone for the secondary TTTCM station was laid in Tabriya, near Tunis, less than one year ago.

Despite this, Saudi Arabia's Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones Minister Alawi Darwish Kayyal remains optimistic.

During a visit to Aerospatiale in Cannes, he told MEED that even if the construction of earth stations took longer than envisaged, "transportable antennas could be set up in a few months to receive the satellites' signals. I know of some that could be manufactured, delivered and installed in five months."

His flexible response, while making the latest delays more difficult to explain, fails to take account of the substantial training programme needed for Arab operations and maintenance staff; tariffs for using the system have also to be agreed.

Another question still to be resolved is that of the carrier for the satellite.

Arabsat 2 is booked on NASA's Columbia shuttle in 1985; conflicting reports surround the car-

rier for Arabsat 1. ArianeSpace says it expects to take it up with a Brazilian telecommunications satellite; reports in the Saudi press say it may go up on Columbia with Arabsat 2.

The lure being held out by NASA is that a Saudi astronaut would oversee the mission. Inviting nationals of countries that book satellite launches to accompany missions is believed to be a ploy the agency is using with increasing frequency to combat ArianeSpace's growing success in winning orders.

The American shuttle programme received a setback earlier this year when malfunctions in Columbia's payload assist module — made by McDonnell Douglas — put two satellites into the wrong orbit and cost Lloyd's of London \$193 million.

The cost to Saudi Arabia — ASCO's biggest shareholder — of such nationalistic self-indulgence would be expensive. Not only would it have to stump up compensation to ArianeSpace, but it would probably also forfeit much goodwill among its fellow Arab shareholders.

In addition, the malfunction in the McDonnell Douglas module has not yet definitely been put right. If the problem is not overcome in the next few months, the scheduled May lift-off from Florida's Kennedy Space Centre may suffer the same fate as previous launches.



Arabsat: Reaching for the stars

Arabsat: A history

1945 Arab League formed
1953 Arab Telecommunications Union (ATU) established
1956 ATU appoints director-general and approves first budget
1957 ATU decides to develop effective regional telephone, telegraph and telefax links
1967 Conference of Arab information ministers
1969 Arab States Broadcasting Union (ASBU) formed
1971 ASBU promotes setting up of national commissions for space communications in Arab countries
1975 Agreement reached to implement satellite project at conference of Arab communications ministers in Cairo

1976 Arab League authorises formation of Arab Satellite Communications Organisation (ASCO)
1977 ASCO invites tenders for consultancy services for design of space and ground segments. The U.S. Communications Satellite Organisation (Comsat General) appointed as consultant
1979 ASCO issues tenders to build three satellites and two earth stations

1980 The U.S. Hughes Aircraft Corporation and European MESH consortium — comprising France's Engins Matra, Sweden's Saab, British Aerospace Dynamics Group, Aeritalia, the Netherlands' Fokker and Spain's Ima — submit bids by Jan. 7 deadline. Hughes placed on Arab boycott list

ASCO decides that conditions, but not specifications, are to be changed to allow more contractors to bid for the satellite contract
1981 The \$134 million Arabsat contract goes to France's Aerospatiale and Ford Aerospace & Communications. ASCO doubles its capital to \$200 million. U.S. faces congressional hostility to Ford contributing to the Arabsat project, because of Libyan and PLO membership of ASCO, and suggests that the system might be used for military purposes

1982 U.S. State Department successfully resubmits Ford sale proposal to Congress. ASCO signs \$23 million agreement for launch of first satellite aboard European Ariane rocket

1984 January launch date postponed; November launch again postponed

1985 January Arabsat 1 launched? May Arabsat 2 launched?

Mexico, creditor banks reach accord on debt

NEW YORK (R) — Mexico and an advisory group of debtor banks Saturday formally agreed to reschedule \$49 billion of foreign debt over 14 years at reduced interest rates, opening a new chapter in the problems of Third World debt.

The rescheduling, which the 13-bank advisory group and government officials have to persuade 550 creditor banks to accept, far surpasses any arrangement in terms of the amount of debt and the payback period.

Bankers said Mexico, the developing world's second-largest borrower with \$96 billion of foreign debt, won the terms as a reward for stringent measures since 1982 to cut inflation, boost exports and reduce its budget deficit.

Mexico's Finance Minister Jesus Silva Herzog said in a statement: "We have met the challenge that confronted us two years ago when the liquidity shortage then facing Mexico provoked what came to be known as the debt crisis."

The rescheduling, in three parts, calls for Mexico to pay \$1 billion of a \$5 billion loan signed in March last year and to try to repay another \$500 million by the end of the year.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff

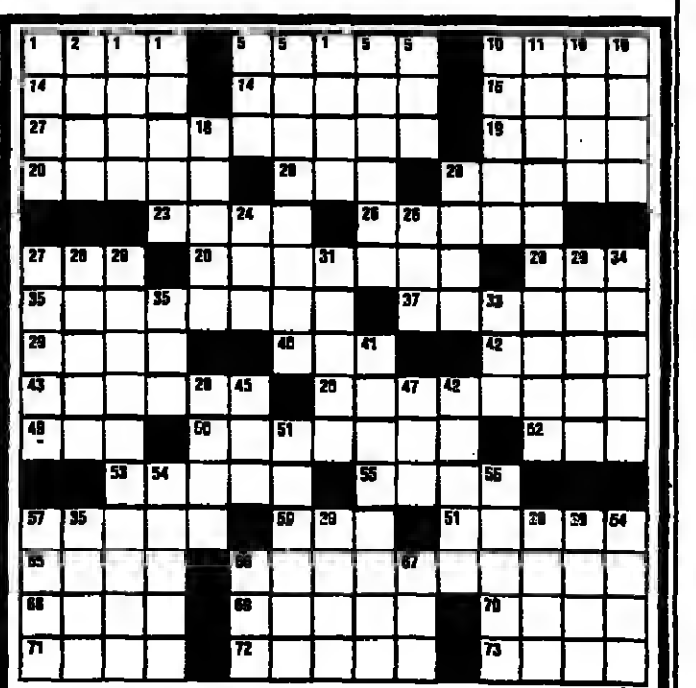


Andy Capp



THE Daily Crossword by Samuel K. Flegler

ACROSS	30 Optical instrument	61 Greeting word	24 Caah
1 Glean	31 Concords	65 Ecclesiastic court	25 Folly
5 Path for a spaceship	32 Concoct	66 Ranch hand	27 Star in
10 Boutique	33 Ready	67 Melting	28 Virgo
14 Podrida	34 Sheerhead	68 Catalyst	29 Tapestry
15 Vaquero	35 Piques	69 Athenian theatre	30 Academy award film
16 Margin of victory	36 Emarrutis	70 Br. river	31 Rhone
17 Second-story man	37 Macabre	71 Theda	32 Caravansary
19 A Guthrie	38 Tooth decay	72 Pope of long ago	33 Rensselaers
20 Hillock	39 Clones	73 These	34 Gr. letter
21 — at ease	40 Timber tree	74 heron	35 Eastern
22 Actor	41 Caboodle's partner	75 Enroll	36 Mitter
23 Welles	42 City on the Mohawk	76 Complicate (with "up")	37 Highway to the North
24 Comella	43 Hindu deity	77 Scamman	38 Grouch
25 Fiber	44 Douber	78 Chorister	39 Form of asceticism
27 Melancholy	45 Gazette	79 Hockey's Bobby	40 Author
		80 Formerly Christiania	41 Home of the Taft
		81 Mex. meal	42 Berlin
		82 Very very	43 Zone
		83 Great	44 School abbr.
		84 Barrier Island	45 Numero —



Bulgarian leader calls off visit to West Germany

BONN (R) — Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov has called off a planned visit to West Germany, the West German government announced Sunday.

A statement from Deputy Government Spokesman Juergen Sudhoff said Bulgaria had informed Bonn that the visit, planned for later this month, could not be carried out as planned and would be postponed.

East German Leader Erich Honecker called off a planned visit to Bonn last Tuesday in the wake of a sustained media campaign by the Soviet Union and its allies against West Germany.

The statement said West Germany regretted Bulgaria's decision.

"Political dialogue is of special importance precisely in difficult times. In the interest of peace and stability in Europe, the West German government reaffirms its offer of dialogue and cooperation with the states of Central and Eastern Europe," Mr. Sudhoff's statement said.

Government sources in Bonn said Bulgaria had linked the postponement of the visit to the deployment of U.S. Pershing-2 and cruise missiles in Western Europe and to the scale of current NATO military manoeuvres, which Moscow has attacked.

Mr. Zhivkov, who is also Bulgarian Communist Party leader, had been due to Bonn in mid-September.

The sources said Mr. Zhivkov's decision showed "the true background" to the postponement of Mr. Honecker's visit, which some opposition politicians in Bonn had blamed on the government of Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

Western diplomats in Moscow and East Berlin said Mr. Honecker appeared to have yielded reluctantly to Soviet pressure to call off the visit, in view of the Kremlin's clear disapproval of closer ties between the two Germanies at a time of deep chill in overall East-West relations.

The Bulgarian move coincided with commentary Sunday by the official Soviet News Agency TASS, which said that relations between the superpowers have fallen to their lowest level in history.

Mr. Zhivkov's postponement appeared as further evidence that the Soviet Bloc allies were closing ranks in a concerted move to shun Mr. Kohl's efforts to maintain a European East-West dialogue despite the stand-off between Moscow and Washington.

E. Germany attacks Bonn

East Germany took up a Soviet campaign against West German "revanchism" Saturday, after weeks of playing down Moscow's charge that Bonn harbours politicians who want to nullify the consequences for Germany of World War II.

The accusation was raised by East German Prime Minister Willi Stoph and senior politburo member Guenter Mittag in Saturday's editions of Neues Deutschland and Einheit, both official publications of the East German Communist Party.

"The (Bonn) constitution's claim indicating that West Germany should be identical with the German Reich in its borders of 1937 ... is permanently fertile soil

for revanchist intrigues of all shades," Mr. Stoph wrote in an article for Einheit to mark the 35th anniversary of East Germany's foundation.

"To this day this revanchist line has not been relinquished," he said in a similar article in Neues Deutschland, the party daily.

The seniority of those making Saturday's charges appeared to indicate that East Berlin was ending its isolation of the past several weeks and adopting the orthodox Soviet Bloc position.

While Soviet allies Czechoslovakia and Poland were loyally echoing Moscow's attacks on revanchism and the dangers of what it called Bonn's attempt to seduce East Germany with financial credits, East Berlin had defended its policy of rapprochement with West Germany as a contribution to better East-West ties.

Mr. Mittag, the politburo's ranking economic specialist, wrote in Einheit that there was neither an "open German question" nor a continued existence of the German Reich within 1937 borders.

Until 1937, Germany included such territories as Silesia, Pomerania and East Prussia. These were lost after World War II and now belong to Poland and the Soviet Union.

"Those revanchists in West Germany who believe they can turn back the wheel of history in the wake of the stationing of new U.S. (nuclear) missiles are 'mis-calculation,'" Mr. Mittag said.

East Germany last year warned there would be an "ice-age" in their relations if Bonn went ahead with deployment of Pershing-2 missiles. Deployment began last December.



Ministers from Mediterranean states, PLO to begin talks in Malta today

VALETTA (R) — Ministers from nine non-aligned Mediterranean countries and a top Palestinian official open two days of talks here Monday at which they are expected to call for a Mediterranean "zone of peace" free of superpower involvement.

Delegates who attended preparatory meetings for the Conference on Mediterranean Security and Cooperation over the weekend said they were working on a draft communique calling for an end to superpower military presence in the region.

But they doubted the final statement would level specific criticisms against the United States or the Soviet Union, or touch directly on such thorny issues as the stationing of U.S. missiles in Sicily.

Libya's Foreign Minister, Ali Abdul Salam Al Turki, arrived here last Tuesday for what Maltese officials described as a pre-conference holiday.

Ministers from Egypt, Syria, Yugoslavia, Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria and Cyprus are expected Sunday while the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) is sending Executive Committee member Farouk Kaddoumi.

A senior Moroccan delegate told Reuters the Libyan-Moroccan unity pact ratified last week would not affect his country's stance at the conference.

"You know the position of Libya and that of Morocco," he said. "We are both opposed to military manoeuvres by the superpowers in the Mediterranean."

Morocco has given the U.S. transit facilities for its rapid deployment force while Libya, a big recipient of Soviet arms, has vowed the rid the region of American influence.

The main streets were closed to vehicles Sunday.

A restaurant owner was stabbed, the sources said, adding that trouble erupted in the Siddiamer Bazaar area in Hyderabad's old quarter where the headquarters of the militant Hindu Ganesh Festival Committee is located. The 10-day festival honours the Elephant God, Ganesh.

Hindu-Muslim clashes here last Monday left at least 23 people injured.

Hundreds of lorries carrying huge clay statues of Ganesh rolled out from various parts of Hyderabad early Sunday to the shouts of religious songs and slogans. The statues will be immersed in a river or lake in the city, capital of Andhra Pradesh state.

At several places young men armed with bamboo canes and wearing saffron caps and waving flags shouted slogans such as "Hindus are brothers" and "long live Hindu unity."

Sunday's violence broke out amid rising political tension ahead of a crucial state assembly vote on Tuesday to test Chief Minister Bhaskara Rao's majority.

Indian police open fire on rioters

HYDERABAD, India (R) — Police opened fire on stone-throwing crowds during a Hindu religious procession in the South India city of Hyderabad Sunday as state politicians prepared for a crucial vote on Tuesday.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) News Agency said a curfew was imposed in many parts of the city because of the violence.

Police sources said crowds set on fire at least one petrol station in the predominantly-Muslim old city, a row of shops near the commercial centre and several vehicles.

Police commissioner Prabhakar Rao told Reuters that more than 14,000 police and paramilitary forces were on duty. "I gave my men orders to open fire if they could not control the violence," he said.

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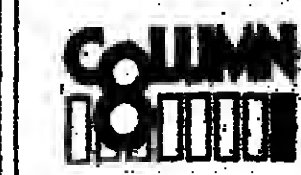
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Woman gives birth to baby with tail

PEKING (AP) — A woman in east China's Zhejiang province has given birth to a baby girl with a tail 2.6 centimetres long, the official Xinhua News Agency reported Sunday. At least three such babies have been born in China since 1959 and all are girls. The Xinhua report from the picturesque city of Hangzhou said the 2.95-kilogramme baby was born on Sept. 3. Her mother was identified as 24-year-old Ceng Xianlan, an attendant on a passenger boat. Both parents are healthy and nothing similar has occurred in the family, the agency said. The tail is smooth and flesh-coloured and measures 0.8 centimetres in diameter, the report said.

Calcutta metro to start next month

CALCUTTA (R) — Calcutta's underground railway will start operations next month after 11 years of construction, the Press Trust of India (PTI) News Agency said Saturday. It said trial runs have already begun. Work on the 17 kilometre system began in 1973. The cost has grown from \$150 million then to more than \$700 million today.

Chinese wearing suits in Peking

PEKING (R) — Western-style suits are supplanting the Chinese Mao jacket for special occasions in Peking this year, the New China News Agency said Saturday. The capital's premier department store is selling 300 suits a day at up to 100 yuan (\$40) each. Many purchasers say they are buying the suits to wear on Oct. 1, National Day. One prospective bridegroom trying on a dark-green suit said such outfits were now the preferred wear at weddings. "After wearing Chinese-style tunics for years, I felt like a change. Besides, Western suits are more comfortable," one young man told the agency.

Food poisoning death toll reaches 26

WAKEFIELD, England (R) — The death toll in an outbreak of food poisoning at a northern England psychiatric hospital rose to 26 Sunday after two women patients, aged 77 and 78, died during the night, health officials said. A further 22 patients at Stanley Royd Hospital, Wakefield, still had symptoms of salmonella poisoning and some of them could have been reinfected, the officials added.

FBI figures show lower crime rate

WASHINGTON (R) — Serious crime in the United States declined seven per cent in 1983, the largest drop in 23 years, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) said Sunday. The FBI's annual report said about 12,070,200 crimes were reported last year. There were an estimated 19,308 murders, down eight per cent from 1982. Eighty law enforcement officers were killed in the line of duty — fewer than in any year in the past decade, it said. Violent crimes encompassing murder, rape, robbery and assault fell five per cent while burglary, motor vehicle theft, larceny and theft dropped seven per cent, it added.

Former president renovating slums

NEW YORK (AP) — Trading in his carpenter's overalls for a blazer, former U.S. President Jimmy Carter finished a weeklong stint renovating a New York tenement, and said his volunteer group now plans to build cheap housing in Nicaragua. "We want the folks down there to know that there are some American Christians who love them," said Mr. Carter, one of a group of about 40 volunteers from Georgia who spent the past week getting a renovation project started at a six-story slum in New York City for Humanity, a non-profit Christian group. Mr. Carter did not say if he would go himself to the Central American nation whose government the Reagan administration accuses of fomenting Marxist-Leninist revolution in El Salvador. "We've got a lot of friends in Nicaragua," Mr. Carter said in a brief speech to his fellow volunteers and their supporters. "We're going to devote the rest of our lives — a good portion of it — to habitat."

Death toll reaches 40 in South African violence

JOHANNESBURG (R) — A weekend of violence has left the death toll at about 40 after two weeks of bloody rioting in South African black townships.

As blacks in several townships buried Saturday's dead, there were new clashes Saturday in Katlehong, east of Johannesburg. Police said they shot dead one black and injured another as a mob attempted to set fire to the mayor's house.

A policeman was seriously injured after being attacked by a crowd wielding machetes, a spokesman said.

In the township of Daveyton, some 3,000 mourners ignored a ban by a Johannesburg magistrate on all rallies and marched in the funeral service of four schoolchildren killed in the unrest.

The wave of violence follows controversial parliamentary elections last month which for the first time included Indians and coloureds (people of mixed race) but continued to exclude blacks, who

form 73 per cent of South Africa's population.

Police held back as the mourners, mainly children, carried banners with political slogans through the township in open defiance of the ban.

Bishop Desmond Tutu, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, said in a funeral oration: "We are tired of coming to funerals, of making speeches week after week. It is time to stop the waste of human lives."

Daveyton was the scene of clashes nearly two weeks ago following the introduction of the new constitution which brought Indians and coloureds into parliament.

That violence was followed this week by clashes in Sharpeville and other black townships south of Johannesburg in which 31 blacks died.

Sparked by rent increases, the violence is some of the worst since more than 500 died in the Soweto riots of 1976.

Bush: Reagan re-election essential for world peace

DETROIT, Michigan (AP) — Vice President George Bush said Saturday that President Ronald Reagan's re-election is essential for world peace and that "weakness and vacillation will not keep the peace."

Addressing the Michigan state Republican convention in the same hall where he was named Mr. Reagan's running mate four years ago, Mr. Bush said, "because we have strengthened our defence we are better able to keep the peace, deter war."

Without mentioning Dem-

ocratic presidential challenger Walter F. Mondale by name, Mr. Bush said, "our opponents are trying hard on this but they are not going to be able to scare that American people. They cannot on this issue deceive the American people."

Mr. Bush told the crowd, "I really feel that helping President Reagan return to the White House is the most important thing that I personally can do or that anybody in this room can do for world peace."

Angola, U. S. discuss Namibia

LISBON (R) — Angola and the United States have held talks on the future of Namibia (South West Africa) over the last two days and renewed their pledge to work for peace in southern Africa, the official Angolan News Agency Angop reported.

The talks took place in Lusaka, the Zambian capital, between Angolan Interior Minister Alexandre Rodrigues and U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Chester Crocker on Thursday and Friday, Angop said.

A joint statement was issued Saturday saying the Angolan-U.S. meeting was held "on the basis of a mutual wish to facilitate a peaceful solution of the existing situation in southern Africa," the news agency reported.

The statement said the two sides continued their bilateral and regional dialogue on questions of mutual interest, particularly the search for an independence settlement in Namibia.

Mr. Crocker has been touring southern Africa in another bid to end the dispute over the vast former German colony which South Africa rules in defiance of United Nations resolutions.

He met South African Foreign Minister P. W. Botha on Aug. 31 and both said afterwards that the way was open to further talks on peace in the region.

He went on later to discuss the Namibian problem with Presidents Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia and Julius Nyerere of Tanzania.

N. Korea denounces Japanese apology

TOKYO (R) — North Korea Sunday rejected Japan's apology for its harsh 35-year rule of the Korean peninsula and called South Korean President Chun Doo Hwan's state visit to Japan a "disgraceful sell-out."

The North Korean Central News Agency quoted the official Rodong Sinmun newspaper as saying: "The towering crimes committed by Japanese imperialism against our people cannot be brushed up with such words as unhappy past and regret."

The agency, monitored in Tokyo, said North Korea retained the right to demand compensation for the sufferings of Koreans under Japanese colonial rule, which ended with Japan's defeat in World War II.

During Mr. Chun's visit, which ended Saturday, Emperor Hirohito said he regretted the "unfortunate past" of the two countries' relations, while Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone offered a stronger apology.

Mr. Nakasone made the point stronger and more directly, saying Japan had brought "great suffering" on Korea and that the government and people of Japan "feel a deep regret for this error."

Chilean unrest focuses in slums as middle class protest fades

By Eva Vergara
Associated Press

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) — The slum was sealed off with burning tires, manned at each corner by teenagers armed with rocks against the next invasion. Then came the march of candles, hundreds of them, borne by silent mourners for the parish priest, slain during a police raid earlier that evening.

The flames of resistance and martyrdom that lit up La Victoria on the first night of last week's nationwide protests have become the dominant symbols of opposition to the 11-year-old military government of President Augusto Pinochet.

Since the birth of a broad-based opposition movement in May 1983, the clanging of pots and pans first heard throughout this Andean country has waned as a form of protest as middle class Chileans, alarmed by violence, lost enthusiasm for mass demonstrations.

Meanwhile, the rebellion in poor "poblaciones" like La Victoria has grown — fueled by their

desperate poverty and the very police repression aimed at controlling them. "Die fighting, not from hunger," is a popular chant at the barricades there.

Five of the nine people killed in the protests last Tuesday and Wednesday were teen-agers boys or men 30 years and younger, shot to death in the "poblaciones" Santiago. Those arrested turned out most of the 20,000 mourners at the downtown cathedral mass Friday for the Rev. Andre Jarlan, the French Roman Catholic priest felled by a bullet fired into the La Victoria parish house.

While a slight improvement of the economy this year has eased some middle-class discontent against Gen. Pinochet, the shantytowns and working class districts are still feeling the worst of a three-year-old recession.

As in many "poblaciones," La Victoria's wooden shacks sprang up on dirt streets carved from a Communist-led land seizure by rural migrants on the edge of the capital a generation ago. Their children, on the average, have a few

more years of education than they do, but also a sense of downward mobility.

Activist housing shortage has forced those children to stay in their parents' homes after marrying and having their own children. According to a church survey, 86 per cent of La Victoria's families are crowded into somebody else's home.

"We feel like prisoners here," said Claudia Leon, 19, who dropped out of high school because her unemployed parents could not afford to keep sending her. Now she, too, is unemployed.

La Victoria's jobless rate is 60 per cent, more than twice the national average, according to the church survey. Many families live on bread and tea.

The harsh conditions have drawn the activist elements of La Victoria together to organize survival tactics under the leadership of a 36-member Poblacion Command. A community soup kitchen feeds 300 children a day. There is a church-sponsored food cooperative and a drug rehabilitation programme, which was run by

Father Jarlan.

Older people are fearful of the protests, which have taken the lives of five of La Victoria's 70,000 residents in 16 months, and they are never seen at the barricades.

But Mrs. Alvarez says she supports the demonstrations as part of "a fight for jobs and food."

The protests are the only time La Victoria does not feel ignored by the government.

"Between protests, you never see the Carabineros (police) here," complained Hugo Soto Hernandez, a shopkeeper worried about crime. During the protests, said a young woman named Alicia, "they are bullies. They break into our homes."

Such sentiment has made La Victoria, a Communist stronghold from birth, fertile recruiting ground for that party and other leftist groups advocating violent resistance to Gen. Pinochet.

The neighbourhood voted in 1970 for Salvador Allende, a self-described Marxist elected president that year and over-

thrown in 1973 by Gen. Pinochet.

The militance of the Poblaciones poses a dilemma for the centrist opposition, which is seeking broad support for a negotiated transition to democracy against Gen. Pinochet's determination to rule at least five more years.

A Democratic Alliance of six non-Marxist parties joined a Communist-led coalition in calling last week's demonstrations after bickering among themselves for six months whether the prospect of new bloodshed would alienate middle class hackers and favour Gen. Pinochet.

"We don't like these protests, but if we don't try to organize them in a peaceful way, they are going to happen anyway," said Mario Sharpe, Social Democratic president of the Democratic Alliance.

"If the armed forces doesn't start a democratic transition, the discontent in the poor sectors will explode into a rebellion beyond our control."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠KJ1063 ♥5 ○QJ9 ♠A363
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
5 ♠ Pass ?
What action do you take?

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠A106 ♥KJ53 ○A955 ♠72
Partner opens the bidding with one club. What do you respond?

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AKJ1054 ♥9 ○AK95 ♠Q6
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ 2 ♥ Pass Pass ?
What action do you take?

Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠95 ♥AKQ63 ○A87 ♠KJ4
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♥ Pass 3 ♥ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠98732 ♥Q6 ○86 ♠AKJ9
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ○ 1 ♥ Pass ?
What action do you take?

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠QJ8 ♥AKQ9873 ♠A92
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♥ 2 ♥ 1 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?